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حوردان تابعز بومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،

Ekeus seeks quicker progress in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AFP) - U.N. disarmament chief Rolf Ekeus, arriving here Sunday with a team of weapons inspectors, said he wanted Iraq to comply more quickly with key parts of a U.N. resolution ending the Gulf war four years ago. We think that this session can be a very invested session can be a very important and positive one," Mr. Ekeus told reporters ahead of talks to late evening with the head of Iraq's Military Industrialisation Organisation, General Amer Mohammad Rashid. "We hope we can move forward now nuickly to get the implementation of the important part of Resolution 687, which set the terms of the ceasefire in the war to drive Iraqi troops from Kuwait, he said. He did not elaborate. Mr. Ekeus' trip coincided with a British newspaper report, based on the "confesinspectors and successfully hidden some of his biological arsenal and ballistic missiles.

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AMMAN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1995, RAMADAN 28, 1415

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Fulbright interior Ministry official retired

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet on Sunday decided to retire Ministry of Interior ivered to retire Ministry of interest in a tight of the sources told the informed sources told the informed sources. informed sources as sources Jordan Times. The sources stroke last hand Abbadi was tipped to replace former than Abbadi was tipped to replace for the replace for the than Abbadi was tipped to replace for the replace orner char. Mr. Khreisat. The cabinet nince in also decided to retire Govinnally also ernor Fayez Al Khasawneb.

virtually algorithms for the condition like the con

Fulbright & AMMAN (AFP) — A hunter the internal in Jordan sparked an alert p:ogramm: wheo be fired in the direction of Israeli soldiers along the ished it is border of the two countries, a who worker Jordanian official said Sunwhile a day. Jordanian soldiers discolown Units vered that a man who fired a nessing is single shot Saturday was a angued to bunter looking for boars in over Viete the border region, said the arter forget official who asked oot to be own him at named. An Israeli army spokesman said earlier that Israeli and Jordanian troops bad searched both sides of Kohling the border after the scare menisca Saturday, Jordanian soldiers found a bundog rifle after a Operation search but the bunter escaped, the spokesman said.

Shin Beth gets new chief

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Prime Minister Yitzbak Rabin tappointed a specialist on Jew-Mr Shim isb extremists to head the firm a rg. General Security Service or char Mr. Shin Beth on Sunday, official Gent cials said. The 44-year-old, who was indestified only by the codename K was Louiner promoted from depoty of Traday my Israel's internal intelligence ined the agency which leads the ting kepts undercover fight against sub-: o mad . version.

however." Fateh warns Hamas

GAZA (R) — Yasser Ara-far's Fateb faction warned militants on Sunday against attacking Palestinian security officers who arrest activists. The Fateb Hawks military wing was answering a statement issued by Hamas oo Friday which threatened to hit back if Mr. Arafat's security forces went on arresting Hamas activists in the Palestinian-ruled Gaza Strip. A statement by the Hawks warned Izzeddin Al Qassam, the military wing of Hamas, Annish 125 against "using threats and reday for sorting to internal violence and sedition as a weapon... olling # we warn you, be careful, be when the careful Qassam brigades about using this method."

nipes hear. Mr. Madu: Algerian opposition plans new talks

PARIS (AFP) — Algerian secular and fundamentalist opposition groops who proposed a peace plan last month icin ssed in Rome are planning uganst another meeting this another meeting, this time in official A Algeria, one of the signator-Nichola Diaballah, president of the Bul # Islamic Rennaissance Movepected of meot, told the newspaper Al 1213. Who we Hayat that the meeting would at the pse be organised "in as sbort a dence to the case in the pse be organised."

King Hussein: Oct. 26 treaty positive precedent for Arab peace with Israel

Jordan will always remain part of Arab Nation, but it will not be a card for others to play • Kingdom's relations with Gulf states are much better than they were after crisis

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein bas asserted that the Oct. 26 peace treaty with Israel will oot affect Jordan's standing in the Arab Nacion, saying that the Kingdom bas always been part of the Arab World, taking part in all its battles and offering sacrifices for its well-being.

"It is strange that some have the impression that the peace process means that Jordan bas beeo separated from (the Arab Nation)," King Hussein said in an interview

with the London-based Al Hayat Arabic daily Saturday. King Hussein said that closer Arab relations will render the Arab World better prepared to tackle the many

problems plaguing the area. But the King said the institutions of joint Arab action, like the Arab League and the Arab summit, have been weakened, blaming all Arabs for the failure of these institutions to perform their

"We are waiting for (the Arab summit institution) to be active again and move in accordance with its responsi-

bilioes," King Hussein told Al Hayar's chief editor, Jihad Al Khazen, in the interview which will be published in today's issue of the newspap-

His Majesty rejected accusations that the peace treaty with Israel had weakened the Syrian negotiating position. The treaty "could be a precedent (for moving) in the right direc-

King Hussein reasserted Jordan's concern that the peace treaty be a step in the process of building comprehensive, just and lasting

peace that would include all parties to the peace talks. King Hussein reiterated Jordan's commitment to the peace treaty with Israel. saving that Israel 100 is implementing all the agree-ments it has reached with

Addressing the issue of normalisation of ties with Israel, His Majesty said that there are no obstacles that cannot be overcome in time.

"Some of us might have opinions that have to do with persons or their feelings on normalisation. (But) I believe that the majority of the

ress (in implementing) all that has been agreed upon is changes... in fulfilling the need of the people in the coming period," King Hussein said. the basis for effecting

In an earlier interview with the Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram, the King said normalisation of relations was essential to allow people to taste the fruits of peace."

Our aim after we have restored our rights is to build Jerdan and allow its citizens a decent life... to create a new atmosphere. So how can we achieve this if we don't have normal relations?" Reuters quoted the King as telling Al Ahram in the interview which was published Sunday. "It is either war or peace, but half solutions are not

possible," the Kiog told Al Ahram. King Hussein said that Jordan will extend all possible support to the Palestinians

but will in no way interfere in their negotiations with Israel.
The King reiterated that
Jordan will not address the final shape of its relations with the Palesonians before

tions of freedom, to choose wbai they wani.

Asked whether Jordan was willing to freeze the implementation of the peace treaty with Israel if that was the price for improved relations with Syria, His Majesty said the Kingdom was not willing to renege on its commitments under the treaty, poloting to the inevitability of the continuation of the peace process on all tracks, including the Syrian track.

"Jordan has never been, and will never be, a card in

(Continued on page 7)

2 civilians, 3 others killed in Israeli raid

MARJAYOUN (AP) -Israeli warplanes and artillery hlasted resistance targets io South Lehanon Sunday after multiple assaults by guerrillas

The heaviest exchanges in mooths killed two Lebanese civilians, two guerrillas and an Israeli-affiliated South Lehanon Army (SLA) and wounded five civilians, said security sources. A second SLA militiaman wounded in erlier clashes died Sunday.

White clouds of smoke engulfed the stricken villages as thousands of residents buddled in basements to escape the fighting. Hardest hit in Israeli reprisals was the vil-lage of Kfar Roumman, where a 37-year-old man and an 18-year-old woman were killed, said the security sources. Among the wounded were two eight-year-olds

and an 11-year-old. A total of 27 houses and 13 vehicles sustained damage in Kfar Roumman near Naboyeh, said reporters at the

The guerrilla assault on the Israeli-occupied "security zone" was the fiercest in recent mooths in terms of firepower and number of posi-

cons struck. Israel's massive retaliation. including three air raids and thousands of artillery shells lobbed on southern Lebanese villages in the spate of six bours, raised the specter of a major showdown on the last flaring Arab-Israeli war

PLO executives plan to chart new peace strategy Arafat-Peres talks fail to lift logism

Rabin cabinet okays settlement expansion Palestinian killed as Israel eases siege

THE PALESTINE Liberation Organisation (PLO) threatened Sunday to throw the Israel-PLO peace process into total disarray, saying its Executive Committee would map out a oew path to peace amid a deadlock in talks on

extending self-rule. Committee Secretary Jamal Al Surani also warned that Israel as well as Europe and the United States would run serious security risks if the process collapsed.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres failed in talks in Paris early Sunday to overcome obstacles to pushing the peace process

in other developments: Israeli soldiers shot and killed Palestinians trying to sneak

Combined agency dispatches ly month-old travel ban bar- establishment of a state ring tens of thousands of Palestinians from their jobs in the Jewish state was eased.

- The Israeli government stood by a decision to allow three settlements to expand on occupied land around Jerusalem despite opposition from left-wing ministers, offi-

In Cairo, Mr. Surani told AFP that the PLO Executive Committee would "reconsider everything that has happened since the Madrid conference (in October 1991) until now" when it meets in Cairo at the end of the holy month of Ramadan in early

It would "decide on a new programme to reach a peace based on a total (Israeli) withdrawal from the occupied territories, the dismantling of the settlements, the

Palestine with Jerusalem as the capital," he added.

Mr. Arafat, who is reportedly close to Mr. Surani, chairs the committee, which is the highest executive body for all Palestinians both in the territories and in exile and groups all Palesunian factions except the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas.

On Sunday, Mr. Arafai failed to break the deadlock in renewed talks with Mr. Peres in Paris.

Mr. Surani charged there had been "a deviation" from the accords which launched self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho in May.

An Israeli redeployment on the occupied West Bank and Palestinian elections were scheduled for July in the 1993 Declaration of Princi-

(Continued on page 7)

King orders help to ex-servicemen, improved traffic and safety on roads

they are able, under condi-

AMMAN (J.T.) - His Majesty King Hussein on ernment to take appropriate measures to improve the living conditions of recred ser-

In a meeting with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Sbaker at the Prime Ministry. the King was briefed on the government plans and studies zimed at making the required improvements. The King ordered that procedures be speeded up and that regulations be issued for this pur-

pose as soon as possible. He said that plans should be made in such a manner that would ensure equality between the new pension sysbest as possible.

Last Tuesday a delegation mic and Social Organisadon of Retired Servicemen (JESQRS) was received by the King at the Royal Court. They presented their case to the King, appealing to him

for assistance in improving their living conditions. i he delegation carife with the prime minister, who had promised a government action in this regard. The King also directed the

government on Sunday on matters related to traffic and safety on the roads. He said that everything possible should be made to ensure safety for passengers and for providing the public and pritem and the old system as vate transport vehicles with

safety devices.

local and foreign media to have access to modern means of communications and telecommunications so that the Kingdom will be rightly considered as a distinguished centre for world media.

King Hussein listened to a briefing by the prime ministers on issues of public interest and the government's plans and programmes 10 deal with them.

Present at the meetings were the two deputy prime ministers and ministers of state for Prime Ministry affairs as well as the minister of finance and post and communications.

Plans uncertain for meeting on repatriation of displaced

By P.V. Vivekanand

process called for in the declaration of principles (DoP) signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisadon (PLO) in September

It was decided recently that

by Jordan, whose position is that it would attend any talks that have to do with the displaced Palestinians since about 700,000 of them live in the Kingdom and Amman is anxious to ensure that their rights under international laws are honoured and re-

Palesonians and Israel. While there was no prob-lem over the Palestinian and red anonymity.

during a Washingtoo meetingon Feb. 12 of the foreign ministers of Jordan, Israel and Egypt — Abdul Karim Kabario, Shimon Peres and Amr Musa — as well as a senior representative of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), but no definite decision on a date for the

according to the official. Palestinian meeting in Cairo

the three Arab parties over the repatriation of the displaced Palestinians among other issues, did not appear very enthusiastic about the Amman meeting on Feb. 26. said the official.

Other officials said a postponement of the meeting would suit Jordan since Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid is scheduled to visit Jordan on the same date.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UN-RWA) has 865,000 Palesti-nians registered as displaced Palestioians; Jordan has about 700,000 of this figure, and the rest are believed to be living elsewhere in the region and outside.

Political observers believe Israel would not allow any large-scale repatriation of the displaced Palestinians to their homeland in the immediate phase.

Jordan is also expected to

give priority to the return home from Jordan of between 60,000 and 80,000 Palestioians who were denied entry to the occupied territories since 1967 on grounds that their Israeli-issued entry permits had expired.

from the displaced.

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AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE AGRICULTURAL MATERIALS TRADE ASSOCIATION

The general assembly of the Agricultural Materials Trade Association met on Saturday 18/02/95 to deal with H. E. The him the adverse effects of his decision to a sudience to discuss with The Agriculture Minister's lack of response regarding a The property of the prices of BRUSSED and the instructions of the rightly guided government that the property calls for the liberalisation of that private sector in order to the private

Union the shoulder more responsibility in agricultural economic least according development.

The services and products offered by the agricultural real companies include: Transfer of technology, real control of the ment of technology. Transfer of technology, the former, advanced products, the former are extension service. farm credit of the formal extension service, farm credit...elc. The cost of such Georgia services and products is proportionately small in terms of the Europe Total production cost. Yet their value to agricultural included production for exceeds this small proportion they repre-

return of the refugees and the into Israel Sunday, as a near-

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Plans to convene a four-party meeong in Amman on Feb. 26 on the repatriation of Palestinians displaced in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war remained unclear on Sunday in the absence of an Israeli acceptance of the date, a senior official said. The meeting of the foreign ministers of Jordan, Egypt and Israel with their Palestinian counterpart is part of a

The DoP stipulates that Israel and the PLO would invite the governments of Jordan and Egypt for "coordination" in the repatriation of Palestinians who come under the category of dis-placed during the 1967 war.

the meeting would be hosted

spected.
The official said the Feb. 26 date was tentadvely set early this month but had to be confirmed by the three

Egyptian participation in the meeong on the appointed date. Israel has not yet informed Jordan of its stand, said the official, who prefer-The issue was discussed

Amman gathering was taken,

"It would seem that Peres was not exactly very bappy with the positions adopted by Jordan and Egypt on the issue," said the Official, referring to the Washington meeting as well as an earlier Jordanian-Egyptian-

in early February.

As a result, the Israeli minister, who obviously saw closer coordination among

The case of these people will be treated differently

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israel is using helicopters, aerial photos and buildozers to stop Palesti-nians building in East Jerusalem while it steams ahead with constructing homes for Jewish settlers in the annexed

part of the Holy City. A special department in the Interior Ministry with an equivalent in the Jerusalem city hall have been put in charge of keeping tabs on any building work undertaken by Palestinians in the Holy City.

Teams of inspectors patrol the Arab part of Jerusalem taking photos of apartment blocks, factories and sheds," Anat Hoffman, a member of the left-wing Meretz Party in the Jeru-salem council, told AFP.

She said the interior ministry also used a helicopter which took aerial photos. "The images are then regrouped and experts compare them from year to year to detect illegal construction,"

she said. If the authorities deem regnlations have been abused then a destruction order is issued, and could be carried out within 72 hours, said lawyer Linda Bryer.

The head of the ministry's department is Sion Saad, whom Ms. Hoffman denounced as a "cowboy who is convinced all the homes of the 100,000 Arabs in East Jerusalem should be des-

"His activities have intensified since the signing of the the launch of Palestinian selfrule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho last May, Ms. Hoff-

Under the 1993 declaration of principles on antonomy, the status of Jerusalem is not due to be negotiated until

WASHINGTON (USIA) -

in the halls of government, ly considered the art of the

probable while policy is

seen as the art of the possi-

In other words, says a sea-

soned State Department

official, good policy rests on

good analysis which, in

turn, tests on good intelli-

cipal deputy assistant secretary of State in the

Bureau of Intelligence and Research, provided an in-

sight into the workings of

an intelligence officer in a

rare, candid, and on-the-

record presentation Feb. 16

at the Washington Institute

for Near East Policy. Until

10 days ago, Mr. Kurtzer

served as deouty assistant

secretary of state for Near

Eastern Affairs with special

responsibility for Arab-

The forum was shared by

two of his counterparts

from the National Security

Council at the White House

and the Defence Depart-

ment. Senior government officials and former offi-

cials, including ex-Secretary of defence Les Aspin, and

several amoassadors from

the Middle East as well as

European diplomats

attended the session, which

was titled "Intelligence and

the Middle East: What do we need to know?"

From the White House

came Ellen Laipson, who is

the director for Near East

and South Asian affairs and

Israeli negotiations.

Daniel Kurtzer, the prin-

Daud Abasi, a father of five, learnt to his cost of the ministry's efficiency.

Last year he was told by the city hall to build and pay for a small wall around the garden of his north Jerusalem home after a child fell down a ravine bordering it. But Mr. Saad spotted it

from his helicopter and the wall was destroyed, Ms. Hoffman said, waving the file

Nabil Solokrot was another casualty of the regulations when he poured concrete in front of his door to stop mud flooding into his home when it rained.

The concrete block was seen and ordered to be de-

Ms. Hoffman said Mr. Saad, not taking any risks, personally intervened with dozens of border-guards and a bulldozer to destroy the block. Mr. Solokrot was also left with a \$1,400 fine.

"The demolition of houses and foundations of other structures often resembles a military operation," said Mr. Bryer, who with a group of lawyers has taken on dozens of complaints from Arab residents of Jerusalem.

An interior ministry spokesman told AFP that Mr. Saad did not give interviews to th press,

In stark contrast to the rules applied to Arabs, Jewish settlements are springing up on the "annexed" land. But since 1967 Israel "has not built a single apartment for Arabs," said Sarah Kaminker, a town planner and director of the Jewish-Arab Information Centre in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, about 65,700 homes for Israelis are being built within the limits of "greater" Jerusalem, she

who previously served as

the National Intelligence

THE remarkon s representa-tive was John L. Moore

who holds the position of

Defence Intelligence Officer for the Middle East,

South Asia and Terrorism.

He previously led the De-

research and production

effort in support of Opera-tions Desert Shield and De-

sert Storm during the Gulf

Mr. Kurtzer's presenta-

tion focused primarily on

the Arab-Israeli negotia-

tions, which last weekend

saw President Bill Clinton

and Vice President Al Gore

participate in a meeting hosted by Secretary of State

new party

ANKARA (AFP) --- Former Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin of the co-ruling People's Social Democratic, Party (SHP) was elected leader Saturday of a new centrist party, in a move that could shatter Premier Tansu Ciller's coalition.

The new party has been formed by a merger with the People's Republican Party (CHP), which is in opposi-

Delegates of the two parties, meeting in Ankara to agree the details, were later to decide which party will accept dissolution in the other's favour.

In theory, the two will merge under the banner of the CHP. If that happens, Ms. Ciller's coalition with the SHP would he in doubt, as some constitutional experts believe it would he impossible for her to carry on a partnership with a new party drawn in part from the opposition.

Other experts said the decision rested with Mr. Cetin, 5g, who is a broadlyrespected pacifist and experienced diplomat of Kurdish

Mr. Cetin, an SHP member, was the unopposed compromise candidate. The leaders of the two constituent parties, Foreign Minister Murat Karayalcin of the SHP and Deniz Baykal of the CHP bad both refused to make way for the other as leader.

Mr. Cetin has defined his major political aim as the creation of a unified and strong centre left in Turkish He was replaced as foreign

minister last July by Mumtaz Soysai, a fellow SHP deputy, who himself stepped down in November in favour of Mr.

U.S. aide cites six areas to watch in peace process



Somalia by the first week of March under the (AFP photo)

Pakistan U.N. soldier who guards the entrance The U.S. soldiers are reported to be equipped of Mogadishn airport. The UNOSOM leaves with experimental crowd-control weapons

Princess pays tribute to industrial sector's contributions to the needy

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Sunday expressed appreciation of the Jordanian industrial sector for its continued backing for the Ramadan charity campaign and businessmen's contributions

to the needy. Speaking at an iftar hosted in ber honour by the industrial sector and the Jordanian business community, the Princess said that their contributions highlighted the fact that social solidarity was a permanent feature of the Jordanian society.

The contributions collected through the annual campaigns have been benefiting scores of needy families who

cerns" of the people in the

received financial and in-kind assistance and grants to start income generating projects,

The Amman Chamber of Industry president and Jordanian Businessmen Association (JBA) Chairman Hamdi Tabbaa delivered addresses. stressing their determination to back the campaigns, which are spearheaded by the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF).

Bashir to head OAF

Princess Basma on Sunday announced the appointment of Awni Al Bashir, a former minister and member of Par-

hament, as QAF executive director.

The Princess received Dr. Bashir in her office and said she was confident that his appointment would further boost the QAF activities and achieve its objectives.

Dr. Bashir expressed his delight at the appointment and pledged that he would do his best to serve the local community benefiting from his past experience as minister of social development,

Dr. Bashir was elected as member of Parliament for the Balqa district in the 1989 elections and was appointed minister of social develop-

these departments under Israeli officials. The spread of full auton-

"We feel the Israeli army

ployed.
"They are out on the

streets, they bother people. They tore up my identity card because it had a little hole in police, its useless."

Jenin rejects limited self-rule, but wary of full autonomy

IENIN, Occupied West Bank (AFP) — The mayor and residents in this bustling West Bank town say an Israeli offer of autonomy without a troop withdrawal would make little difference to

And many doubt their lives would get much better if and when full Palestinian self-rule comes to Jenin.

Abdullah Lahlouh, whom Israel appointed mayor of Jenin 10 years ago, dismissed the offer as "nothing more than we already have" for the 28,000 residents of this town set among green hills, olive groves and almond trees. This is completely out of

the question. It's just a waste of time," Mr. Lahlouh said. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin proposed the "Jenin-first" option at a sum-mit Thursday with Yasser Arafat aimed at defusing tension over the delay in spreading Palestinian self-rule on

the West Bank. Mr. Arafat and senior Palestinian officials bave turned down the offer for some municipal and economic freedom, and Mr. Rabin confessed the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief was not enthusiastic but left the plan on the table

anyway.
"In any case, we control more than 99 per cent of daily life here, as well as economic life," Mr. Lahlouh said. What we need is military deployment and elections on all of the West Bank."

Israel turned over education, health, taxation, tourism and social affairs on the. West Bank to the Palestinian Authority three months ago.

The move did not dramatically alter people's lives as Palestinians initially ran

omy to the West Bank, specified as the second phase of the 1993 declaration of principles on autonomy, has been stalled for months by Israel's built-up Palestinian areas.

presence here," said Hisham Abu Hayja, who is unem-

it - but I stuck it back." A two-storey bine and white fenced-in building, the Israeli military administration building stands in the valley on the outskirts of Jenin town. Next to it is a jail for

minimum security prisoners.
But, while Mr. Abu Hayja is tired of Israeli occupation, he and others were wary of what was to come under Palestinian self-rule.

Taxi-driver Hamed Abdullah was particularly disillusioned by reports of bribery and favonritism in the Palestinian Authority.

"I hear that to get a gov-ernment job, you have to be well connected, even to get a job done," he said.

"I also worry about repression, no freedom of speech, like in other Arab states where no-one can criticise the

Fadl Rajeh, 45, was also unhappy with a Palestinian police crackdown in Gaza against hardliners and others behind anti-Israeli attacks. "He is bending to American and Israeli wishes," he

"Arafat's popularity is dropping as he is unable to get our prisoners released, all I want is that my cousin should be freed and all our

friends," he said. There are ahont 5,000 .. Palestinians in Israeli jails, and Mr. Arafat has been .. pushing for their release as ... stipulated in the autonomy "

Unemployed, Mr. Rajeh said he had not paid his electricity bills for five years, and -. was covered by the municipality. He was worried the ... Palestinian Authority would

force him to pay up.
"When Arafat comes here,... we will go back to using oil ...

But all looked forward to the strongest evidence of ... Palestinian power that Mr. Arafat would bring: Auarmed police force in uniform , like those in Gaza and

"The most important thing for us here is security," said Emad Al Sayess, a hairdresser from the nearby Jenin refugee camp of 11,000.

"Otherwise what would we have gained, it's all for nothing. If we don't have our -

Israeli group slams conditions of lock-up for Palestinians

The Jerusalem Post

SMALL four-bed cells sometimes house up to 50 Palestinians being held for illegally entering Israel, according to a report on Jerusalem's Russian Compound lock-up by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

The building is dilapidated, inside and out. "In summer, the air is stifi-

ng, while in winter, there are leaks and dampness," and in many cells there is not enough light to read, the report states.

ACRI presented the report to Police Minister Moshe Shahal, demanding that the lockup be transferred to another building. For several years, human rights groups have demanded conditions there be improved.

Dept. Cmdr. David Ben-Yair, responsible for the lockup, said that some of the changes ACRI recommended had been made.

In a written reply to the report, Ben-Yair also said: There were several objective points that can't be improved because of the character of the building."

He was referring to the fact that the present complex is located in a British Mandateera building protected by historie preservation codes. ACRI maintains this is a . \$ mjor reason the lockup must be moved.

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Foreign workers in Israel top 70,000

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel has imported 59,000 cheap foreign labourers to replace Palestinians and another 11,000 are being recruited. Labour Minister Ora Namir

satu Sunday. She presented the figure at the weekly cabinet meeting as Israel cased a month-long closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip allowing 900 Palestinians to return to work

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19:00 News In Frenc
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23:00 ALI
27:50 Street Haw
21:10 By Way of the Star 22:00 News in English
77400 News in English
22:20 Bombardie
23:59
Feature film "The Colour Purple"

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WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Temperatures will rise slightly with winds westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.
Min./Max. temp.

Annan	
Deserts	4
Jordan Valley	11

Warren Christopher for the foreign ministers of Israel, Egypt, Jordan and a senior aide of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Intelligence analysis, in the view of Kurtzer, has to provide "a sense to the trends, where facts fit into long-term trends and when those trends are likely to impact on policymakers' agendas." The task of intelligence, he continued, is "fast facts" - what the policymaker needs to know

accurately in real time and what may have a relevance for U.S. policy. Mr. Kurtzer explained the primary purpose of intelligence as providing the president with "strategic warnings" about threats to

the United States and pro-

viding tactical commanders

in the field with the intelligence needed to carry out assigned to them.

At the outset, Mr. Kurtzer underlined the importance of "regional expertise," saying that nothing will ever substitute for it in the intelligence community or at the operational side. Generally speaking, he continued, intelligence

analysis has 10 address six main areas: - A need to understand "local and regional dyna-

mies." In other words, "what's happening today and how does it relate to what happened vesterday. - A need to understand the social and political environment in which the

peace process is operating. - A need to understand "deeply rooted" beliefs of all parties including "the role of Islam, the role of Zionism or the role of newor post-Zionist Israel." Mr. Kurtzer added: "We need to understand the way people think about themselves and about their belief system.

- A need to understand leadership attitudes. "The question we are often asked is 'what is President Mnbarak and what is President Assad and what is Prime Minister Rabin : thinking What are their intentions and what is motivating them and how they are likely to act under certain cir-

 A need to understand the "hopes, fears and conregion. It is not only leaders Wen, we temphasised. Here; he observed that most countries in the Middle East do not provide a receptive environment for polling techniques. Accordingly, assessment of popular attitudes becomes verv difficult.

 A need to understand "national negotiating styles" or, as he put it. "a close study of the way people interact with other people across the negotiating

table." Mr. Kurtzer was more to the point when be discussed the problems that beset the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations. He enumerated six issues that merit close watching. First, the problem of

"structural fault lines" that exist in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. Are these negotiations on track, he asked, and has the Osig process taken root enough so that it can overcome immediate issues that beset the two parties? The Israel public's perception is that they have not gained a greater degree of security from this peace process. while the Palestinian perception is that the peace process has reached a deadend in the Gaza-Jericho takeover. "Is this a structural fault line or a temporary proolem." asked Kurtzer. Here, the intelligence community needs to suggest reasons as to why the im-

The second area to watch the continued in the existing agreements.

Why haven't the existing agreements taken greater root or borne greater fruit, he asked. Are there problems in Palestinian

decision-making or Palesti-nian governance that need to be taken into account? Are there problems in Israeli policies and Israeli practices that continue to beset the process? Are there problems in the delivery of donor assistance that are exacerbating the problems on the ground?

A third "particular" area to watch, he continued, is the Israeli-Syrian negotiations. Here, he continued, the question is whether the political will continues to exist among Syrian and Israeli leaders to reach an agreement and, if so, why tbey haven't broken through on issues that are well known to both sides. "It is remarkable and perhaps not surprising how little is secret about the Syrian-Israeli engagement," he observed. But, of course, what is secret, he continued, are the "desires and expectations on the part of the leaderships about what they will concede and when, in order to reach an agreement."

Egypt was cited by Mr. Kurtzer as the fourth area that should he watched in the peace process. He wondered whether there is "a

ment in which Egypt is. seeking a leadership role in. Egypt see itself outside the process, he asked, and what levers is Egypt using to re-tain the role carved out for itself when it signed a peace agreement with Israel in **13/3**5 Arab besitation is another Issue that Mr.

long-term trend develop-

Kurtzer focused on. "As many positive things as can be said about the Arah world's acceptance of the peace process, including its participation in the multilateral negotiations," he stressed, "the fact of the matter is that there has been too little consolidation of Arab-Israeli relations after the Madrid process began in 1991. The intelligence community owes policymakers an analysis of the causes of this Arab hesitation, he added. Or what are the factors that may impel the Arabs to take a more forwardleaning role in moving toward a comprehensive set-

Lastly, Mr. Kurtzer said, U.S. policymakers need "a clearer understanding" of the way the American role is perceived in the region. He said his office watches "carefully for indications of whether our role is effective and efficient and whether there are either cries in the region for more assistance or stand-offishness on the part of that assistance."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:	
MILITARY,	
Dr. Yousel Rashed	896301
Dr. Jamil Tarif	794710
LJT. PAVEZ 13ahbas	750144
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim .	205446
Elementary .	002-40
Fires pharmacy	001912
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Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharman	614770
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Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shmeisani pharmacy Nairoujh pharmacy	637660
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Dr. Ali Al Omari	272032
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Highway Police 843402	M
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Overseas Calls	An
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Shmeisani Hospital University Hospital	6691.
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Al-Muzsber Hospital . The Islamic, Abdali	667227
Al-Ahli, Abdali	666127/3
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Army, Marka	7/5111/2
Queen Alia Hospital	891611/J
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Amai Hospital ZAROA:	67415
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Zarqa Govt. Hospital Zarqa National Hospit	(09)98332
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for Sine Homical	(09)90056
ion Sina Hospital	(09)98673
Al Hikan Modern Hospita	1 (09)99099
Process Rooms Linesian	
Greek Catholic Bowins	(02)27555
the Al Nafeer Mountain	(12)2727
Princes Bassa Hospital . Greek Catholic Hospital Ibo Al Nafces Hospital	(UZ)7 47 10
Princesa Haya Hospital	
TOTAL CONTRACTOR	(03)314]]

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia In- ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200- 5, where it should always be veri- fied.
ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
68:20 Sanas R. 68:35 Jeddah RJ 69:60 Damascis RJ 69:15 Araba RJ

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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:35 Cairo (MS)
12:35 Muscat, Abu Dhabi (GF)
14:00 Hudaidah (TY)
14:30 Klev (6U)
17:85 Rome (AZ)
(7:50 Paris, Damascus (AF)
13:15 Dubai (EK)
23:10 London (BA)
23:10 London (BA) 01:10 Amsterdam (KL)
DEPARTURES
Royal Jordanian (RJ)
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65:65 Beirut (RJ)
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20:30	2
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	-
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06:15 Beirut (ME	5
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13:00 Khartoum (SD	١.

MARKET PRICES ----- 680 - 130 / 60 --- 180/100 --- 140/ 80 --- 200 / 120 --- 360 / 280 --- 200/120 1000/200 280 / 200 200 / 100 350 / 200 300/ 200 1000 / 800 500 / 300 . 350/ 250 . 180 / 100 ... 120/ 60 . 900 / 700

House discusses unemployment, TCC privatisation and Aqaba projects

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Low- and the restoration of er House of Parliament met Sunday and heard from deputies on the problem of unemployment, plans for privatising the Telecommunications Corporation, and Agaba port projects among other issues. The deputies also listened to replies by ministers on querries previously presented to them by

Lower House members. Deputy Abdollah Akhu Irsheideh voiced his dismay over the rising rate of unemployment and what he called futile measures undertaken to deal with the problem.

The deputy suggested that the government cut JD 3 million from this year's fiscal budget to be allocated for projects that would create

He said that JD I million could go to the Ministry of Public Works to finance the employment of daily wageearners working on the ministry's projects, another JD I million for the Ministry of Agriculture to finance afforestation projects that employ as many workers as possible, and JD 1 million to pay daily wage-earners working for the Department of Antiquities on excavations

archaeological sites.

Deputy Ahmad Qudah questioned the wisdom behind the government's intention to convert the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) into a private com-

The deputy asked whether the TCC was no longer able to handle its services to the public, and whether the private sector was more efficient

in operating the corporation.

The TCC, he added, is one of the most successful government agencies, providing the 1995 fiscal hudget with at least 188 million; and by privatising the corporation the state treasury stands to lose a steady income at a time when the country resorts to borrowing to meet its obliga-

"I do not think that the private sector would be morre competent in handling the corporation's affairs and in offering better service." added the deputy, who said there was not a single reason that justifies the transforma-

Mr. Qudah demanded that the government cancel plans for privatising the TCC in a terests and those of the na-

Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker replied to a querry by Deputy Nazih Ammarin concerning the criteria for the appointment of advisors to the government.

Sharif Zeid said that the

criteria follows the same patterns of appointing other civil servants in other depart-

Ahmad Kasasbeh enquired about the Ports Corporation's plans for huilding a ger platform and its benefits to the Aqaba har-

In reply, Transport Minister Samir Kawar said that the wharf was being built in implementation of a Cabinet decision upon the recommendation of a Japanese technical team which approved the feasibility study for the new projects.

The minister said that the platform was needed in view of the increase in the number of passengers travelling be-tween Aqaba and Nweibeb, Egypt, noting that in 1994 668,038 passengers were ferried to Nweibeh. Earnings from their transport totalled

Locusts swarm northern S. Arabia Ministry says it is prepared for emergency

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swarms of desert locusts have invaded parts of northern Sandi Arabia, and there is a possibility that the vegetation-destroying insects could migrate to Jordan, Agriculture Minister Ben Tarif announced Sunday.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister said that the Romebased U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Lo-cust in the Middle East have notified Jordan that parts of Tuhama in the northern Arabian peninsula have been invaded by locusts and they warned of the possibility of their movement into Jordan. Mr. Ben Tarif said that operations were under way to fight off the pests in Saudi Arabia, and current weather conditions in Jordan make the danger a remote possibil-

ity at present. He said that the Agriculture Ministry bere has taken measures to combat the desert locusts in the event they appeaar in Jordanian terri-

The ministry, in cooperation with the Armed Forces and the Air Force, has made plans for aerial spraying of areas that could be a target of the locusts, and it bas sufficient trained-manpower to do the ioh as well as teams to monitor the southeastern regions near the borders with Saudi Arabia, Mr. Ben Tarif

sawneh, head of the ministry's department in charge of protecting farmlands, the Kingdom was last invaded by locusts in 1988 when effective measures dealt promptly with the situation.

Mr. Khasawneh said that the ministry has a central operations room ready to receive and relay information inside the Kingdom and with neighbouring states and international organisations.

'We are in constant contact with these parties and monitoring the situation very carefully," added Mr. Khasawneh who said that the Kingdom possesses sufficient equipment and pesticides

Visiting Australian trade minister opens major regional trade office in Amman

By Amy Henderson Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Australian Minister of Trade Bob McMulian Sunday rounded up his visit to Jordan with the inauguration of the Australian Trade Commission's (Austrade) regional Amman Branch. The office will be shared with the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation (AMLC), the national marketing body for Austra-lian meat and hyestock. The new office will serve Syria, the occupied territories and Iraq to some extent, as well

"I'd like to emphasise how important we think this is," said the minister after declaring Austrade officially open. Australian businesses see Jordan as a hnh for regional activity; our private sector sees opportunities here, and we would like to share in the

benefits of peace."

During his visit to Amman. the minister met with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minster Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, as well as senior members of the government including bis counterpart Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Abul Ragheb, Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, Minister of Water and Irrigation Saleh Irsbeidat and Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben

"This is an important event to Australia," Mr. McMullan said following the ceremony at the new office. "Things bave gone very well for us this week. We were delighted to meet some of the senior most members of govern-ment and of the private sector - I continue to hear

stories of opportunity here." The minister said that meetings this week had met all objectives set prior to his delegation's arrival in the Kingdom. "This will be seen leading to increased bilateral zone at Aqaba as a corner-

trade and investment be-

tween the two countries. Australia currently exports U.S. \$50 million to Jordan in meat, livestock (live sheep), dairy products and cereals, with meat and livestock constituting the main items. Imports from Australia constitute 70 per cent of Jordan's live sheep market and 35 per cent of the total sheep mar-

In Jordan, Australia competes with Eastern Europe, Turkey and Russia for the sheep market. Jordan is Australia's main supplier of fertilisers, and phosphates with exports to Australia reaching U.S. \$10 million in 1994.

Mr. McMulian said be recognised that the balance of trade between the two countries was grossly in favour of Australia, but said there are signs that the balance will become more equitable, pointing out that bilateral trade has grown since 1990 and is continuing to increase 'suggesting a healthy de-

"Jordanians should explore business opportunities in Australia," the minister added. "We bave no tariffs or import quotas - it's a good

While most Australian exports are commodities Mr. McMullan said he hoped that Australia would eventually export manufactured goods and services as well as technology to Jordan. Water resource technology he said, may bold the most promise in technological trade with Jordan, since the similarities in the countries' climates that Australian technology can be easily applied in Jordan.

Australia is an active participant in the water resources multilateral working group for the Middle East peace

Other members of the Anstralian delegation expressed enthusiasm for the potential Jordan offers as a centre for regional trade, citing the de-

tegration between the nation-

al commercial fleets and

TRADE

Visiting Australian Minister of Trade Bob Sunday talk to the press about their

McMullan (second right) and senior mem- discussions with government and trade bers of an accompanying trade delegation sector officials in Jordan (Petra photo)

stone for Australian livestock trade to the region. In the free trade zone, Australia owns a feed lot for sheep jointly with Jordan (in operation since mid-1994), which according to traders are more efficient and a better environment for the animals.

"One of the main things we expressed this week was how pleased we were with the development of trade with Jordan and development of the free trade zone," said Don Clark, chairman of the Australian Livestock Exports Association.

"(Through the free trade zones) Jordan has allowed us to streamline our live sbeep business in the area.'

The development of the free trade zone is a platform for re-export, explained Richard Martin, representa-tive of the AMLC - Amman. "We can export 200,000 sheep to Aqaba for re-export to surrounding countries vested in the feed lots are blessed by the fact that peace . has come at a time allowing them to expand to the occupied territories and Israel." The AMLC has already

shipped a consignment of sheep to Gaza, Mr. Martin told the Jordan Times, adding that the potential for Palestine is nowards of 80,000 sheep per annum. He added that no sheep are being exported to Israel from Agaba, but "we hope by the end of February that we will send the first consignment to

In addition, said Mr. Martin, not only does Australia have access to new markets including Palestine, but also greater flexibility to export to Mediterranean countries uch as Lebanon, and to

orth Africa. "There is also economic spin-off here for Jordan in terms of port revenues, transMr. McMullan met with Crown Prince Hassan, who invited Australia to participate in a preliminary series of meetings in Jordan to prepare the ground for the Amman economic summit in

According to the Jordan New Agency, Petra, the Crown Prince stressed the need for coordinating efforts to ensure the success of the summit, adding that Austra-lia can contribute positively to the conference by providing its expertise on water, energy and the environment.

Mr. McMullan expressed Australia's willingness to participate in the summit both earlier this week during a meeting with the Minister of Industry and Trade and during a press conference Sunday, saying, "We look forward to exploring any pro-Prior to the inauguration of support to Jordan."

Agriculture ministry price-setting angers materials trade association

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A recent decision by the Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tarif to set the prices of agricultural inputs drew an angry response from the Agriculture Materials Trade Association which Sunday said it would protest to the prime minister.

According to Samer Maher, an agricultural engineer and a member representing the association, the merchants are facing new legislation regarding the retail pricing (end user price) for all imported agricultural sup-He said that in order to

come up with the fixed retail prices, the Ministry of Agriculture stipulates a gross margin of eight per cent on the importers' landed cost of any such material thus forcing agriculture supply companies in Jordan to adhere to these fixed prices or face severe

According to Mr. Maher, the general assembly of the association continuously tried to contact the agriculture minister to discuss the new laws and measures hut "the minister was never available at all the times we tried to ployment and also kill the

The following listings are compiled from

monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press.

Readers are advised to verify the listed time

FILM

A Film entitled "Peau De Banane" at the

French Cultural Centre at 7:00 p.m.

PLAY

☆ Play (in Arabic) entitled "You Are Not

LECTURE

🖈 Leeture entitled "Nabataean Trade

Routes and Cities in the Neger" by Jane

9:00 p.m.

Yourself" at the Royal Cultural Centre at

and place with the concerned institutions.

contact bim."
"The minister of agriculture has shown a lack of response regarding a request by our association for an audience to discuss with him the ill effects of his decision to set the prices of agricultural materials," Mr. Maher said. Mr. Maher told the Jordan

Times that this regrettable decision is viewed to be in conflict with the "revered directions of His Majesty King Hussein and the instructions of the rightly-guided government that calls for the liberalisation of the private sector in order to concur with market-oriented economy and ultimately shoulder more responsibility in agriculture

economic development. He warned that this decision will put an end to all such imports and will destroy the entire agriculture supply

This intransigence leaves no room for a marketoriented economy and is in conflict with the existing agriculture produce-marketing livelihood of all those working directly in this sector," Mr. Maher said.

In addition, he said, the decision will increase unem-

WHAT'S GOING ON

free entrepreneurial spirit which has been the back bone of the development and advancement of the agriculture sector.

The minister's decision is personal and was not based on any scientific study that will take into consideration all the concerned parties." he

According to Mr. Maher, the services and products offered by the agricultural materials companies include, technology transfer, technical assistance to the farmer, advanced products, extension services, farm credit and

"The cost of such services and products is proportionately small in terms of total production cost. Yet their value of agricultural production far exceeds the small proportion they repre-

sent," he said. The Minister of Agricul-ture was not available all day Saturday and Sunday to comment on the issue.

The under-secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, who was contacted Sunday, evening, refused to comment on the issue and said that "this issue only concerns the minister, and I can't comment on

Taylor at the Friends of Archaeology

EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of oil paintings by Sabah Ibra-him at Al Bayraq Art Gallery, Sports City

Exhibition of handicrafts by Hasmig

Knymjian at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Photo exhibition at the Friends of Archaeol-

"Young America" exhibit (with photo-

graphs featuring Americans of all ages) at

Exhibition of works by Qasim Al Samir at

Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural

the Housing Bank Complex Gallery.

Centre at 7:30 p.m.

intersection (Tel. 688701).

ogy Centre.

the American Centre.

Jordan, Sudan sign maritime agreement

AMMAN (Petra) - Jordan and Sudan Sunday signed an agreement on maritime transport, trade and cooperation between their ports.

A statement following the signing ceremony said that the two sides agreed on facilitating and organising mari-time transport between their respective ports, the use of seaports and fleets and exchange of expertise designed to serve the interests of the

people of the two countries. The agreement aims at further promoting economic and trade ties, ensuring in-

lannching cooperation in trade and maritime transport, according to the agreement signed by Minister of Transport Samir Kawar and Sndan's ambassador to Jordan, Abdul Rahman Nimeiri.

It said that the two sides will cooperate in guidance of vessels, rescue at sea and in the exchange of information on vessel safety.

They will also work together to remove obstacles impeding maritime transport hetween Jordan and Sudan, coordinate laws and regulations concerning maritime trading between them, unify their positions at international and regional forums and collaborate in training cadres and in the maintenance of

Also in accordance with the agreement, the two sides agreed to create a joint shipping line, arrange for their respective seaports to transport goods and passengers, and encourage joint investment in projects pertaining to their joint maritime

By P.V. Vivekanand

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - An Austrian

company will conduct a pre-feasibility study on a

proposed Jordan-Syria rail-

road that would be the first

phase in the Kingdom's

plans to eventually make

railways one of the key

means of transport within the region with links to

region through Turkey and

services of their seaports. The two sides agreed to set

up a joint maritime committee grouping representatives from the two countries to ensure the implementation of . the agreement and follow up on the exchange of informa-tion and statistical data.

Upon signing the agree-ment Mr. Kawar lauded the excellent relations between the two countries, adding that the agreement was bound to boost the exchange of trade between Jordan and Sudan on the one hand and

Austrian firm to study feasibility of

proposed Jordan-Syria railroad

eneterprise and promote the between the two countries and other countries in the region on the other.

Mr. Kawarr noted that Sudan possesses a good commercial fleet and expressed hope that Jordan would be able to participate in operating that fleet.

- *

For his part, the Sudanese ambassador said that the agreement reflects the strong links between Sudan and Jordan and the endeavours of the leaderships in Amman and Khartoum to bolster inter-Arab trade and econo-

Women's group opens 3rd legal advice bureau

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The Jordanian Women's Union (JWU) Sun-day announced the opening of a third legal advice bureau for women; this one at the JWU's headquarters in Jabal Hussein in Amman.

"This hureau is open to any woman who needs legal or social advice on any matter," said Sawsan Ishaq, a volunteer lawyer who is in charge of receiving visitors to the new centre.

According to Ms. Ishaq. women come to the centre with all kinds of problems. such as "marital questions, rape, suicide, labour conflicts, hattery and domestic violence."

The hureau provides legal and social assistance to women three days a week, Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday, from 9:30 a.m.

to 1 p.m. Although the bureau was officially opened on Sunday, Ms. Ishaq said, the centre was already aiding dozens of women over the past two

"People heard of our intentions to open a third legal advice branch in Amman, and women started visiting us and telling us about their problems and asking for help." she said.

The new cases that the legal

adviser handled, she said,

proved that there is also a

need for a women's shelter. "We have already been engaged in a case by which two women fled their homes because they were being mistreated by their families and they had no place to go," Ms. Ishaq told the Jordan Times. Moreover, Ms. Ishaq said, the centre has already started

service within the next few

table of lawyers, health.

psychology and social experts

to receive women's calls and

advise them," Ms. Ishaq said.

"There will be a round

Europe.
The present Jordaniandefending a woman who claimed that she was being Syrian railroad is of narrow gange and Jordan's plans physically abused by her busband and was seeking diinvolve converting it into the standard broad gauge and thus making it com-patible with the European The bureau does not provide financial assistance, but network that could evenbelps women by defending toally be linked with the them in the courts or trying to

find jobs for them. "It is the right of every woman to have knowledge of all her legal rights and duties; most women lack such know-Parts of the network will also be used in transport of Jordanian phosphate as well as potash to the port of ledge," she added. Aqaba for Far Eastern destinations and to the Israeli

According to Ms. Ishaq, the idea of opening the third centre came about following port of Haifa for European importers. Jordanian proposals prethe success of two other censented at the Casabianca tres opened in Wihdat camp economic summit last year last March and in Baqaa involve about 1,100 kilometres of railroad at an According to Ms. Ishaq. the union will start a hot line estimated cost of \$1.3 bil-

As and when realised, the rail network will invoive linkage among Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Israel passing through the Kingdom from north to south and east to west.

Financing for the project is expected to be discussed in an Amman conference to be held in October as a follow-up to the Casablanca summit, where ideas were presented for various parties for initial discus-

The pre-feasibility study to be undertaken by Austria Rail Engineering, a private sector company, involves a section of the overall national project. This section will run between Amman and the Syrian border and will have a hranch running from Maf-

raq to Irbid.
The project, rated as "high priority" in the King-dom's plans, involves 124 kilometres of rails at an estimated cost of \$192 million and is expected to be completed in three years from the date of launching.

The Irbid branch of the railroad will be extended another 70 kilometres to the Jordanian-Israeli border near Al Majme Bridge, from where it could link up with an Israeli network that runs to the port of Haifa through Beit Shean.

That linkage will allow Jordanian imports and ex-ports to be channelled directly through the Mediterranean.

Under present plans, Mafraq will serve the key junction for the Irbid extension to the railroad running to the Syria border as well as another 305kilometre branch to the Iraqi border. The branch to the Iraqi border is estimated to cost about \$335

Projections call for 600 kilometres of tracks and related infrastructure within Iraqi territory to com-plete the linkage between the Jordanian network and Baghdad.

In the south, linking the Jordanian network with Saudi Arabia — 70 kilometres of tracks at an estimated cost of \$77 million — would complete the network, which will thus offer rail connections between Israeli ports and Iraq and Saudi Arabia through Jordan in a situation of total Arab-Israeli peace.

Michael Angerer, commercial counsellor at the Austrian embassy here. said the Vienna government would finance the Austrian Rail Engineering study with a grant of three million Austrian shillings

(about \$270,000), The proposal for Austrian financing for the study was initiated during the visit of Austrian President Thomas Klestil to Jordan in April last year, Mr. Angerer told the Jordan

He said the prefeasibility study was expected to be ready before the end of the year.

weeks.

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS oughfare Saturday to the CASAS, Mexico (AP) — Angel of Independence The army pushed deeper into former rebel-held territory, despite calls from a churchbacked mediation commission for the military to retreat as a condition for new peace

News reporters said that Saturday afternoon they saw some 20 armoured vebicles, troop transports and Humvees rumble into the town of posada, ahout 15 kilometres (10 miles) east of their former position in the town of Patihuitz, east of this mountain

By the time reporters got to Posada, all the villagers had fled, leaving hehind some frightened dogs, tur-keys and other farm animals. The movement came one day after the National Media-

tion Commission called for new talks to end a rebel uprising in sonthern Mexico. hut said army troops must withdraw from newly captured Indian villages first.

In Mexico City, nearly 20,000 people danced and marched down a main thor-

Monument, demanding that the army pull back troops from territory beld by Zapatista rebels.

"We demand the immediate resumption of negotiations and an end to this war." said Martha Martinez, a law student. The slogan "we are all Zapatistas," was painted

on her face. A group of federal lawmakers was reporting back to President Ernesto Zedillo this weekend after visiting former rebel territory and meeting with the churchhacked national mediation

The Mexican Congress will begin dehating the conflict in Chianas this week to see ways of ending the rebellion - a demand for land and social services in Mexico's poorest state that began on New Year's Day 1994.

At the top of the agenda will be an amnesty law that would pardon rebels who agreed to lay down their

vent war and genocide," the commission said in a statement late Friday. "Both sides have expressed their willingness for dialogue and a political solution to the conflict. But this is not enough."

The commission insisted talks begin this month and that a "stable truce" be declared by the end of March. Talks last year ended without

There was no immediate response from the govern-ment or from the Zapatistas to the commission's call. But Mr. Zedillo, who says he wants to resume peace talks, also has said be has no intention of pulling the troops

He said Friday that the government "will never again abdicate its constitutional responsibility to preserve its authority in national terri-tory." He referred to land formerly controlled by the

rebels. The rebel Zapatista National Liberation Army has not been beard from

ing their stance: they want to renew peace talks, but the army's presence in the mountains is an obstacle. The army began occupying

pro-rebel villages starting on Feb. 10, one day after Mr. Zedilio announced he was cracking down on rebel leaders. A government arrest warrant is still out for top rebel spokesman Subcomandante Marcos.

Marcos led the Zapatista delegation during last year's talks with the government and would most likely be the lead negotiator in any new

The Commission of Federal Lawmakers charged with trying to restart peace talks was heading back to Mexico City this weekend after visitsouthern Chiapas state.

ing southern Chiapas state.

During their visit, they met with the National Mediation Commission and with Amado Avendano, the head of Chiapas' rebel-backed paraliel government. They also toured former rebel areas now occupied by government

since Wednesday, when they E. Europe vows no compromise on NATO

Europe will insist on one overriding condition before accepting an embryonic NATO plan to offer Russia a

wider-ranging security treaty. No pact must ever give Moscow a veto over whether the Central and East European nations, freed only recently from Soviet domination, can join the Western

defence alliance. "If there is a plan we are not against it," an official at the Czech Foreign Ministry said. "If that plan means NATO will expand, it's good for us. But if not, it's the worst possible option," he said, requesting anonymity. NATO shaken by Russia's

hostile reaction to its plans for eastward expansion, is currently looking at ways to buy Moscow's acceptance with a cenarate security part out any special deal for Russia beyond Partnership for Peace, a programme open to all post-Communist nations offering only limited military

NATO insists Moscow will bave no veto over expansion. But suspicions linger in Eastem Europe where memories remain of the 1945 Yalta Agreement, when the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union carved up post-World

War II Europe.

That deal consigned Eastern Europe to 40 years of Soviet domination which en-

"It is not surprising. They (the Russians) have nuclear weapons. It is obvious that NATO'a relations with such a superpower as Russia are different from those with, say, Poland," a senior Defence Ministry official said.

"It is in our interest that they (NATO and Russia) solve their painful problems but this must not happen at

our expense. The understanding runs out when it comes to joining stand: we was strive to join NATO and we are not going to ask Russia about it," President Lech Walesa told visiting Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin last

The problems are indeed painful. Russian President Boris Yeltsin has warned the West of a "cold peace" if it tries to recruit countries which were its allies before

Mr. Yeltsin, addressing the

back Russian democracy

Poland, which with Hungary and the Czech and Slovak republics is in the leading group for NATO mem-bership, accepts that Russia do not want Europe and the has to be treated differently.

Russian Parliament last Thursday, urged NATO to

rather than seeking to isolate ded only with the fall of the Kremlin in Enrope. communism in 1989. Attacking plans for "hasty expansion," Mr. Yeltsin said; This continent ... has already generated two global military catastrophes, and we

> world to return to old or new division lines," French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe has spoken in favour of a special treaty and German Foreign Minister Volker Ruehe has raised the

middle of this year. Mr. Jappe wants to beef up the Organisation on Security and Cooperation in Europe, revitalise the Western European Union - the European Union's defence arm — and The Czech omeiai said Eastern European membership would benefit NATO as much as the new member nations. If NATO did not fill

possibility of a deal by the

"Russia has a tradition of expansion and if there is a space which is undefined, like now, somebody will take it." he said. If NATO did not expand eastwards, "we can expect that Russia will be the

power which takes care of

the current security vacuum,

Other countries seek to soothe Russian fears. 'NATO is not expanding to the east, it is East European states that want to go West," Romanian Defence Minister

Gheorghe Tinca said. Budapest also says Moscow has nothing to fear. "We believe that with Hungary's NATO membership the stability of this region would grow," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Gabor Szentivanyi. "The existence of a stable region in East/Central Europe is also in Russia's

Estonian Deputy Foreign Minister Raul Malk called the NATO idea appealing but said: "Giving preference to one Eastern European country over another may involve very great dangers." join NATO at all Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar supports membership, but his iunior coalition partners are not so sure.

Jan Slota, chairman of the far-right Slovak National Party (SNS), called for brotherhood with fellow Slavs. "1 personally think there's no threat from Russia. I think there shouldn't be any (defence) pacts in Europe at all." be said.

A woman carries her son, wearing a mask and carrying a toy machine gun to resemble a member of the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN), in Mexico City during a protest

march. The march was held to support nego-tiations in the search for a solution to the armed conflict in Chiapas, Mexico (AFP photo)

Paper: Michael Foot, former U.K. Labour leader, was Soviet agent

LONDON (AFP) — Former Labour Party leader Michael Foot was an "agent of influ-ence" for the Soviet KGB in the 1960s, the Sunday Times reported, citing retired KGB officers whose statements were quickly denied by the

"Former Soviet spies have revealed that the KGB regarded Michael Foot as one of its 'agents of inflnence' in Britain in the 1960s and that it made a series of cash payments to him to help fund Tribune, the left-wing news-paper he ran," the Sunday Times said.

It cited several former KGB officers, including Oleg Gordievsky who described Mr. Foot, head of the Labour Party from 1980 to 1983, as "an agent who gave us much

active help in the 1960s." Mr. Foot's code name was Boot, according to Mr. Gordievsky, who worked as a spy at the Russian embassy here for 11 years until his defection in 1985. He claims to have a list of

24 British personalities be had recruited as KGB agents. In his response, Mr. Foot declared: "I had, and continue to have, good relations with people and their diplomatic representatives in London from all over the world - America, Germany,

Russia and the rest... "I was especially close to the Soviet ambassador in London, Ivan Maisky, who was a good friend of mine... "I reported on the matter

in my book Loyalists And Loners and I would be happy for that chapter to be repro-duced for the education of Sanday Times readers... How these matters were reported back by the KGB,

heaven knows "Reputable English newspapers should be careful not to be fooled by the Soviet secret police." A Labour spokesman rose to the defence of the party'a former chief, asserting that "everyone knowa that Michael Foot is a democrat and a patriot and these claims will be dismissed with con-

tempt." Neil Kinnock, also a former party leader, insisted that "these claims are absurd and the complete opposite of the truth.

Mikhail Lyubimov, another former KGB operative in London questioned by the Sunday Telegraph newspaper, characterised the accusations against Mr. Foot as "half truths."

He said several British pobticians bad often met KGB agents thinking they were diplomats. The politicians were subsequently described to KGB authorities in Moscow as "agents of infin-

U.S. civil rights group elects new chief

NEW YORK (R) — The widow of slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers woo a one-vote victory Saturday to become chairman of the NAACP, the oldest and largest advocate for Amertroversial longtime Chairman

William Gibson. Officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People said Williams over long-time controversial Chairman William Gibson, followed a threehour meeting of the group's

64-member board. Mr. Gibson has been dogged by allegations that be misused NAACP funds and

supporters of that Ms. Evers-Williams had won, there were whoops of joy and even last" from her supporters in

the New York hotel. Ms. Evers-Williams is the widow of Medgar Evers, who was assassinated by white 1963 when he was the NAACP's leader in Missis-

Among the organisation's most pressing tasks is to fight Republican moves to end affirmative action programmes, which promote the hir-

Hugh Price, president of the National Urban League, hailed Ms. Evers-Williams' victory saying that the elec-tion "sends the message that the organization is now ready to recapture its vital role in

our society,"
Sources said the vote was 30 for Ms. Evers-Williams to 29 for Mr. Gibson, a South Carolina dentist who has run the NAACP for a decade and was chairman when its controversial executive Director Benjamin Chavis was forced

to resign last year. Mr. Chavis quit in a scandal over his payment of \$300,000 in NAACP money to a woman who accused him

allowed the civil rights group ing and education of ethnic of sexual harassment. **Burundi president warns of holocaust**

BUJUMBURA (R) — Burundi President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya said Sunday that his central African country risked plunging into ethnie bloodshed worse than that in Rwanda last year if extremist groups were not quickly isolated.

His warning was echoed by Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Secretary-General Salim Ahmad Salim, who

told Reuters after talks with

the Burundi leader: "There is a real danger of a repetition

Burundi.' Bujumbura has been paralysed for nearly a week by a general strike called by the opposition Uprona party to press for Prime Minister Anatole Kanyenkiko's removal. Mr. Kanyenkiko resigned Wednesday but bas not

been replaced. Mr. Ntibantunganya said:

"If Burundi continues with these crises we will end up of the Rwandan tragedy in with a genocide worse than that of Rwanda. We must try to marginalise the creators of

these crises." He spoke after Saturday's announcement that a planned African summit meeting on the refugee crisis in Rwanda and Burundi had been cancelled because of lack of sup-

port from the leaders of nearby countries.

Rwanda refugee crisis eases **– Ogata**

NAIROB1 (R) — The Rwan-dam refugee crisis has eased but the security situation in neighbouring Burundi is deteriorating, the head of the United Nations refugee agen-

cy said Sunday.

The crisis situation has subsided and it is now a process of finding solutions and reconciliation," Sadako Ogata, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), told a news con-

Ms. Ogata, at the end of a 10-day tour in the region, said in Nairobi that conditions had improved enormously for millions of mainly Rwandan refugees in camps

in Zaire and Tanzania. But aid officials in Kigali, Rwanda's capital said Sunday two refugees were killed when Rwandan troops opened fire at Cyangugu, on

the Rwanda-Zaire border. The officials said several thousand refugees attacked and looted a convoy of trucks carrying aid supplies destined for refugee camps in Zaire

Ms. Ogata, who attended a three-day conference in Buinmbura last week on the region's 3.8 million refugees and internally diaplaced, joined the chorus of alarm about Burundi.

"It is deteriorating and it is on a very fragile basis. What the outcome will be in the next few days I don't know," she said, adding her voice to

warnings from President Bill Clinton and the United Na-

tions Security Council. Burundi and Rwanda have the same mix of Hutu majorities and Tutsi minorities and the same tragic history of ethnic massacres on a huge

Most of the Rwandan refugees are Hutus who fled last year when their tribesmen exterminated np to one million Totsis and moderate Hutus. Many of the refugees are killers who fear reprisals in their villages when they go

back. Burundi had to cancel a one-day regional summit Saturday after none of the invited presidents showed up. apparently because they feared the insecurity in the

capital. Small-arms fire and grenade explosions are heard every night in Bujumbura despite a curfew. The country's latest political crisis was triggered by opposition moves to sack Prime Minister Anatole Kanyenkiko.

Ms. Ogata said the return of refugees from Zaire to Rwanda was accelerating, with 700 going home from the main camp in Goma Saturday. At that rate the repatriation will take several years but Ms. Ogata said the momentum would build up as refugees gained confidence

about their safety at home. She defended the U.N. de-

cision to delegate security

control in the camps to 1,500 Zairean soldiers supervised by international civilian

Foreign governments ignored U.N. appeals to send contingents for the policing force whose main task is to prevent Rwanda'a former government soldiers and mili-tiamen in the camps from stopping refugees who want

to go home. But Zaire's ill-paid soldiers have a long record of muti-nies, indiscipline and buman rights abuses. Ms. Ogata said ire had pledged to send its

disciplined units. Meanwhile, the Rwandan cabinet has approved in principal the recruitment of fore-ign judges to replace those killed in violence last year, Rwandan radio reported Saturday.

The radio, monitored in Nairobi, said the decision was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by President Pasteur Bizimungu Friday.

"The cabinet examined the problem of lack of judges in the country, as many were killed during the recent geno-

cide," it said. "As a result, the cabinet approved the idea of having foreign judges working in our country. Due to that, the cabinet also found it necessary to have the law governing judges in our country

changed very soon.' Current law requires judges to be Rwandans.

Oldest woman costs punter a fortune

ARLES, France (AFP) -Jeanne Calment, the oldest person in the world who celebrates her 120th birthday Tuesday, has cost a fortune for the man who invested 30 years ago in her apartment banking on her early death.

Ms. Calment is still being paid a life annuity by retired solicitor Andre-François Raffray, 77. under a "viager" deal by which her apartment here would be bis when she died. Conviced he would not have long to wait, Mr. Raffray agreed to pay the old lady 2,500 francs (ahout \$500) a month in May, 1965, when she was 90. Up to the present he has paid her a total of 900,000 francs (\$180,000), at least three times the value of the apartment. "In life, you can't win them all," said Ms. Calment, still sprightly except for her blindness, in the cosy retire-ment home where she now lives. Mr. Raffray, who retired years ago, is keeping a low profile, but his ex-wife said: "He is sickened, this affair makes him look ridiculous. He hates this kind of publicity." Ms. Calment, who still applies a little rouge to ber wizened cheeks, will blow out the 120 candles on her hirthday cake Tuesday. and if she stays healthy, she will this year beat the all-time record for longevity held by Japanese geriatrie Shigeshiyo Izumi, who passed away on Feb. 21, 1986, at the age of 120 years and 237 days. Apparently frail. Ms. Calment has kept most of her wits and told her doctor Victor Lefehvre, last week, "when I die, I'll die healthy." Ms. Calment was born in this southern French city into a hourgeois family on Feb. 21. 1875, five years before the fall of Emperor Napoleon III, and nearly 40 years be-fore the outbreak of World War I. She became a grandmother in 1926 when her only daughter had a son, but be died in a road accident in 1960. At the age of 110, she entered the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest person in the world. She knew the eccentric impressionist painter Vincent Van Gogh who often came to visit us but he was: a bloody bad-.

tempered character.' Soothsayers

in trouble COLOMBO (AP) - Sri Lanka has ordered the expulsion of two Indian soothsayers for contravening immigration laws, officials said. The palm readers, R.S. Jeyaram and L.V. Kalyamoorthy, who had arrived last December on tourist visas, were arrested after they advertised their services in a local newspaper, said an immigration official. The soothsayers, both from southern India, have been allowed to stay until March 21 after being taken ill while in detention. South Indian soothsayers regularly visit Sri Lanka where wealthy husinessmen and politicians will pay a small fortune for their services in telling the

future, exorcising demons and casting spells. Half a baseball card on sale —

LOS ANGELES. California

for \$452,000

3 1

A.C.S

(AFP) - Half-ownership of a 1910 Honus Wagner baseball card goes on the auction block on March 7 with a minimum price of \$452,000. The card was hought by National Hockey League star Wayne Gretzky and former Los Angeles Kings owner Bruce McNall for a record price of \$451,000 in 1991. Now McNall's half-interest is up for sale, under the supervision of U.S. Bankruptey Judge Lisa H. Fenning. Any qualified collector can bid for the half, but Gretzky will have the chance to beat the highest offer to gain sole ownership of the card. Cards depicting Wagner, a Hall of Fame player, are rare be-cause he objected to his image being associated with the cigarette advertising on the hack. There are only 40 known Wagner cards in existence. This card's association with Gretzky and McNail has also piqued the interest of collectors. "The card has had more publicity than any other card in the history of collectible cards," said Larry Goldberg, who beads the auction department of Superior Stamp and Coin, the company McNall sold last year in the face of federal fraud charges. McNall . pleaded guilty on December to bank fraud involving \$236 million. He is to be sentenced on July 6. and prosecutors have indicated they may ask for a

sentence of up to 11 years.

difficulties and morale problast year, has resulted in hunlems among its diminishing dreds of government casual-

SIEM REAP, Cambodia (R) - A senior Cambodian military commander said Sunday his army will capture the Khmer Rouge's main northem headquarters at Anlong

Veng within a day or two. "In general, in one or two days we'll take Anlong Veng. There's only 100 Khmer Rouge fighters still in the area and they're now in the process of contacting us to defect." Lieutenant-General

Nhek Bun Chhay told Reu-Gen. Nhek Bun Chhay.

FRANKFURT. Germany

(AP) - After 50 years, the

U.S. military is giving some

prime Bavarian real estate

hack to Germany. And not

The property was once Hit-

ler's Alpine redoubt, and the

German government wanted

U.S. Army's 101st Airborne

confiscated Nazi property in

Bercbiesgaden and on nearby

Ohersalzberg Mountain,

countless American troops and their families have en-

joyed the hotels, villas and

ski slope once used by the

American forces in Europe

from 300,000 in the late 1980s

to 100,000 this year, the U.S.

military decided to close one

of its three vacation centres

in southern Germany.

Col. Richard Bridges of

U.S. Army Headquarters in

Heidelberg said the Ober-

salzberg and Berchtesgaden

facilities weren't worth keep-

ing because they needed ex-

But the German govern-

Finance Minister Theo

ment asked the Americans to

reconsider for two reasons:

Waigel, a Bavarian, had told

the town of Bernau it could

get back the U.S. resort at

Bavaria state officials

tensive renovations.

Lake Chiemsee.

With the reduction of

Third Reich's elite.

Since May 1945, when the

the Americans to keep it.

just any old piece of land.

deputy chief of the army's general staff, is in overall command of the northern

zone of operations. Captured Khmer Rouge documents shown to Reuters by the general indicate the Khmer Rouge rebel faction is encountering severe supply

force of fighters. The general said that within four or five days there

Rouge bases left in the north

Americans to return Alpine property

wanted the Americans to

keep the Obersalzberg prop-

erty for at least 10 more years

to prevent neo-Nazis from

In June 1993, the U.S.

military agreed to give up the

Chiemsee reson if Germany

paid 30 million marks (\$20

million! to renovate U.S. re-

sort in Berchtesgaden and

Obersalzberg.

But the deal fell through,

Col. Bridges said, because "it

would not have been prudent

of us to guarantee staying 10 years." So the army went

back to its original plan of

abandoning the

Berchtesgaden-Obersalzberg

Now, the Chiemsee resort

east of Munich and U.S.

military hotels in Garmisch-

Partenkirchen south of

Munich will be kept open

piece of the armed forces

recreation centres... and we

had invested roughly \$14 mil-lion between 1987 and 1990

in some major upgrades at Chiemsee," Col. Bridges

The Obersalzberg resort

includes a 270-bed hotel and

two villas on the ski slopes of

the 1,000-metre (3,300-foot)

mountain above Berehtes-

gaden. The buildings are con-

nected by tunnels and bunk-

ers that were designed as

'Garmisch is the centre

indefinitely, he said.

Penh government.

Reuters Friday. would be no hig Khmer

of the country, only small

hoohy traps, soldiers told

Hitler's Alpine fortress, but

were never completed. Nearby is Kehlstein Peak,

with a restaurant known as

'Eagle's Nest," also used hy

Hitler. It's open to tourists

In the town of Berchtes-

gaden, population of 12,000, the U.S. military is turning

over a 90-room hotel, two

barracks, 12 family apart-ments, a post office, shop-

ping centre, and a garage.

The turnover should be

completed by September.

at Chiemsee will be reopened

and 130 employees rehired

Bernau administrator Hel-

mut Schuhbeck said the town

of 6.000 had counted on 1

million marks (\$660,000) a

year in tourism revenues

from the Chiemsee prop-

"They're not mad at the

Americans because they see

them as friends, but a lot of

try then decides wbether to

hold the property or return it

"It's too bad," he said.

for the summer season.

Meanwhile, the U.S. resort

Col. Bridges said.

from May to October.

groups of scattered rebels to continue the low-level guerrilla war against the Phnom The dry-season military

Exact numbers of killed

were not known.

and wounded on both sides

operation to secure the northern region, which began in earnest in mid-December ties, mostly from mines and

Cambodian army says rebel base about to be taken Gen. Nhek Bun Chhay reaffirmed that there would be no attack to capture the rebel-held Preah Vihear Temple, which sits just inside the Cambodian border atop

the rugged Dangrek Mountains. All supply lines to the 60

Khmer Rouge guerrillas

occupying the site had been severed and the Cambodian army had received good cooperation from their Thai counterparts, Gen. Nhek Bun Chhay said

contested. Oskar Steuer represents five descendants of former landowners, who claim they were forced out in the 1930s so Hitler could have his Alpine

dents were collectively forced into submission," Mr. Steuer said. "We will sue for return of the property."

Meanwhile in Lizzano, Italy, struggling through rain and wind, five U.S. veterans of World War II scaled an

immoral because the resi-

campaign against the Gercommemoration, including one who had been captured in 1945, said the Americans'

spokesman, Dick Wilson.

people are really upset by the Finance Ministry," Mr. "We were wrapping our arms around each other. We Schuhbeck said. had a fabulous time," said Under the status of forces Wilson, in a telephone interagreement, the U.S. military view from Lizzano, in northreturns confiscated German central Italy, which served as property to the federal government. The Finance Minis-

to Germans Ownership of the Obersalzberg properities is already

Berchtesgaden attorney retreat. The expropriation was

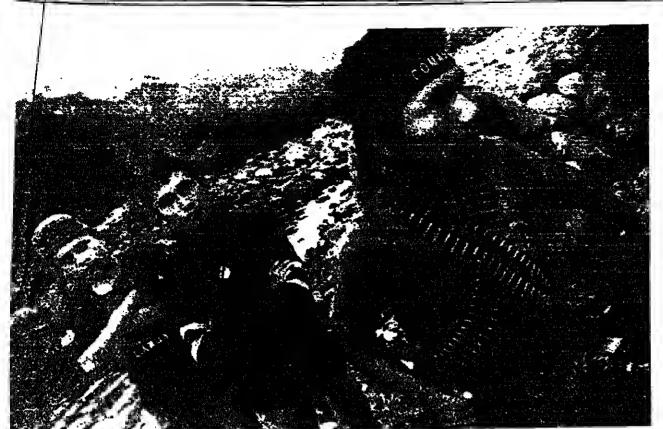
Apennine ridge Saturday to reenact their conquest of the

mountain 50 years ago in a Even two German soldiers who were part of the enemy 50 years ago came to the

the group's base for the reenactment. The U.S. veterans served in the war as part of the 10th

Mountain Division.





Peravian army soldiers patrol the Cenepa River and surrounding area near the PV 1 military base in the Cordillera Del Condor area of the Peruvian Amazon. Peru

and Ecuador signed a ceasefire in Brasilia after border sides (AFP photo)

Phone-tapping scandals loom over French leaders

PARIS (AFP) - A phonetapping scandal moved a step closer to French Premier Edouard Balladur this weekend in a case which could seriously embarrass the frontrunner for upcoming presidential ballots.

In a separate development the office of President Francois Mitterrand was also further implicated in alleged illegal telephone surveill-

The scandal involving Mr. Balladur's Mangnon office was fuelled Saturday when it conceded it had authorised telephone "surveillance" of a psychiatrist, Dr. Jean-Pierre Marechal, father-inlaw of a prominent anti-

corruption judge. The Marechal case broke last December when it was revealed that he had received a briefcase containing one million francs (\$185,000) in cash from Rally for the Republic (RPR) party official Didier Schuller.

The cash was allegedly given in return for a Marechal promise to use his influence with his son-in-law Judge Eric Halphen to slow down investigation inc.

alleged illegal fund:-Slowing down the complex affair until after the presidential elections in April and May would benefit all in-

volved, but particularly the French prime minister. Mr. Balladur's office said Saturday that Marechal's phone was tapped in connection with extortion allega-

tions. It justified the action by saying it was investigating blackmail and extortion.' French law bowever only

permits this particular type of phone-tapping in cases involving terrorism, organised

crime or espionage. It can also only take place with the authorisation of the

ministry concerned - that of Interior Minister Charles Pasqua — and of the prime

minister's office. Judge Halphen is one of a bandful of anti-corruption judges who have in recent months probed financial wrongdoing in political and business circles, forcing the resignation of three Balladur

New corruption evidence could only harm Mr. Balladur, who is still the frontrunner to succeed Mr. Mitterrand, but whose popularity has in recent weeks begun to

The financing racket took the form of fake invoicing and commissions for public works honsing contracts for Paris City Hall and the regional council of the neighbouring Hauts-de-Seine Department, Mr. Pasqua's nower-base.

Last month, the Supreme Council of the Magistracy (CSM), the judiciary's top disciplinary body, ruled there phen to be taken off the case despite the Marechal affair. office, under the authority of Mr. Balladur's Justice Minister Pierre Mehaignerie, had said Judge Halphen was in to blame for the Marecchal affair, but could

not continue to investigate the RPR case. In another development on the case Sunday, Mr. Mebaignerie condemned in an interview with the Journal du Dimanche comments by a pro-Balladur RPR deputy,

Patrick Balkany, criticising Judge Halphen over the case. The comments by Mr. Balkany in the French newspaper Le Parisien Friday, and those by Mr. Mehaignerie. are likely to fuel the con-

troversy in the run-up to the

businessman-turned-rebel

ground but we haven't seen a

change in the confrontation

line or any major succes-sess," said the U.N. sookes-

man in Sarajevo, British

Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Co-

More than 244 detonations

- military pariance for heavy

weapons fire — were counted

over the period, he said.

Sporadic fighting also took

place near Bihac town, where

the Muslim-led government's

5th Corps is bottled up by

Col. Coward also con-firmed that Serb forces from

the breakaway region of Kra-

jina in Croatia had shelled

across the border last week in

4 killed, 17 hurt in Indian state poll violence

Mr. Abdic's forces.

They are fighting for

first round of presidential elections on April 23.

Meanwhile in a separate

development over the

weekend, Mr. Mitterrand too faced new phone-tapping allegations. Saturday's Le Monde said five computer discs contain-ing evidence of illegal phone-

tapping carried out by an Elysee anti-terrorist cell in the mid-1980s had been handed over to investigating magistrate Jean-Paul Valat. It said the discs contained "stunning evidence" against the presidential cell, in par-

ticular implicating officers in the group, but also Mr. Mitterrand's former chief of staff, Gilles Menage. A former member of the Elysee cell, Pierre-Yves Guezou, committed suicide

Balladur slow off the blocks in presidential race

last December.

Meanwhile two months ahead of the first round of polls, the Conservative pre-न्याइन विशेष विशेष क्षित्र के इति है greeted by yawning disappointment and dogged by renewed scandals involving his ruling centre-right coali-

His rightwing rival Jacques Chirac and Socialist Lionel Jospin pressed ahead with vigourous campaigns in a three-way race which shows

every sign of getting tough. Mr. Balladur's bid to replace President Mitterrand suffered a new blow Sunday with a poll showing he bad lost nine points in a month following a clutch of similar snrveys which have been sounding the alarm in his

camp for the last week. The poll, in the Journal Du Dimanche, still put him comfortably in front. But it gave him a 46 per cent popularity

rating against 55 per cent last month, and said 48 per cnet of the French electorate was

dissatisfied with him. In an editorial the paper pointed out what all Balladur upporters knew: "It was predictable that his popularity would fall once he became a candidate. What is surprising is the brutality of his fall."

Mr. Balladur, who was appointed prime minsiter following a landslide victory for the French right in parliamentary elections, has for some months sought to keep himself above the political rough-and-tumble, portraying himself as a steady hand at the helm of the ship

The strategy seemed to be working. After the withdrawal of European Commission head Jacques Delors from the race in December, Mr Balladur almost overnight took over his position at the bead of the opinion polls, with leads to excess of 20 per cent

over bis nearest rival. The first sign that this cure victory came when the Socialist Party (PS), in disarray following Mr. Delors' departure, finally rallied around former Education Minister Jospin at the start of

Mr. Jospin has since surged to within 10 points of Mr. Balladur in polis of voter intention for the two-round presidential contest, scheduled for April and May.

Mr. Balladur's formal campaign launch last week was intended to seize back the mitiative. But the speech was widely criticised as lacklustre and seen as merely a restatement of the policies he has pursned for the last two yers.

One Socialist deputy called him the "master of soporific communication."

Opposition attacks Fujimori on Peru-Ecuador ceasefire

Alberto Fnjimori, running for re-election in April, has come under fire for the terms of a ceasefire ending a three-week border conflict with

Mr. Fujimori's political opponents maintain that the ceasefire signed late Thursday in Brasilia requires Peruvian forces to pull back several kilometres behind what Peru considers to be its bor-

Meanwhile, Peruvian troops retreating from the combat zone testified that they saw "at least 300 dead Ecuadorans" and that Peruvian losses were higher than the government has reported. Ecuador and Peru signed the ceasefire after border skirmishes claimed the lives

of at least 70 soldiers on both The press reported one of the Peruvian troops pulling out of the disputed territory said "on our way we ran into no less than 300 dead

Ecuadorans in the combat

zone. The retreating Peruvian soldiers also said their forces had lost more than the roughly 30 troops the government reported killed, but they would not give a more precise

number. Most of the border between Peru and Ecuador was demarcated following the signing of the Rio Protocol in 1942 to end an earlier conflict between the Andean neigh-

The only portion left over was the 78 kilometres stretch in the Condor Mountains that the two countries began fighting over in late January. President Alberto Fujimori's closest rival in the April 9 race, former U.N.

Secretary General Javier

tion table land that our sol-LIMA (AFP) - President Perez de Cuellar, strongly supported Mr. Fujimori dur-ing the conflict, but joined the chorus of opposition Fri-day by saying he had "very serious reservations" about

the terms of the ceasefire. Other opposition leaders followed suit Saturday morning, arguing that the agreement signed in Brasilia was flawed because it did not determine a definitive demarcation of the unmarked stretch at the source of the

Curiously, one of Fujimori's top supporters, Carlos Torres Y Torres Lara, implicitly acknowledged that the efire agreement did in some ways mean a change in Peru's policies.

conflict.

The conflict zone constitutes a space where there has been military confrontation, an area over which there is a question," he said. This enraged the opposi-

"Why has the government

diers recovered with courage, heroism and at the risk of their lives?" demanded a prominent politician and former lawmaker Enrique Ber-

"What was the use of the sacrifices of our heroic soldiers who died defending Cueva De Los Tayos, Base Sur and Tiwinza?" asked leftist Deputy Henri Pease, referring to the three bases that the fighting focused on. Despite Mr. Pease's statement, Ecuador never lost control of

Tiwinza. Former President Alan Garcia, who has been in exile in Colombia since May 1992, accused Mr. Fujimori of 'treason against Peruvian

foreign policy." During the war, Mr. Fujimori, a former university rector elected in 1990 as a popularity soar to more than 70 per cont political neophyte, saw his

Part of that popularity

against Maoist Shining Path rebels that resulted in the capture of top leaders, ineluding founder Abimael Guzman in September 1992. The arrests markedly cut Shining Path violence.

Mr. Fujimon's April 1992 decision to shutter Congress and temporarily rule by decree did not cost him support. In pushing through a rewriting of the constitution, one of the measures he insisted on was an elimination of a ban on re-election of presidents that allowed him to throw his hat in for a

second term. By making all decisions associated with the war, Mr. Fujimori now runs the risk of reaping all the blame should the ceasefire accord turn out

to be unpopular. Political analysts say Mr. Fujimori will have a hard time allaying the doubts that the opposition has planted about him on the emotionally charged issue of Peruvian sovereignty.



the Cordillera Del Condor area of the Peru-A Peruvian army soldier takes a break in the viao Amazon (AFP photo) Puesto Vigilancia Uno (PV 1) military base in

Unionists to publish own plans for British rule

BELFAST (R) - Protestant politicians bitterly opposed to Anglo-Irish peace plans for Northern Ireland said Sunday they will publish their own proposals for keeping British with the wind reporter

Their announcement came as the British and Irish governments prepared to make public their own ideas for how the province might cona permanent peace.

They know the next 14 days could be Ireland's most testing political period since guerrilla violence halted six months ago, breathing new life into the Anglo-Irisb peace drive.

The two governments have reached broad agreement on controversial new peace moves involving all-Ireland constitutional and institutional reforms. But London and Dublin

have failed to convince Northern Ireland's majority Protestants that these are not an underhand threat to their cherished centuries old ties with Britain.

Mainstream Protestant Unionist parties say they will have nothing to do with the two governments' so-called

"framework document proposals" but will talk to the British government about their own ideas on how Northern Ireland should be

governed. Political analysts say. Untheir plans are not swamped in a publicity deluge around publication of the Anglo-Irish plans, expected over the next week or so.

The Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) and the smaller Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) aree likely to outline well-established policies for continued British rule, with a devolved Northern Ireland Assembly but no executive

links with Dublin. **DUP** spokesman Sammy Wilson told Reuters his party would publish Monday, the day before a meeting in London between his leader, firebrand politician-preacher Ian Paisley, and British Prime Minister John Major.

Unionists bad already made clear their rejection of the British and Irish governments' plans, he said. Therefore an alternative was needed to take the process

"We are giving them (Britain) a way out of their own

folly," Mr. Wilson added. Jim Wilson, UUP general secretary, said bis party hoped to publish Tuesda; or Wednesday. "The govern-ment has already said they are prepared to talk about

anybody's proposals as well as their own.... "If the framework document is as (Irish) nationalist as it sounds already, you wouldn't expect the Unionist nationalist agenda."

Mr. Major has denied that the Anglo-Irish document leans towards appealing nationalists. He says it is a balanced strategy aimed at getting cross-community

ercement. Unionists in the British parliament have threatened to bring down Mr.. Major's government if he tries to sell them out to Dublin.

Britain and Ireland have spent two years on the fine detail of the proposals. They will be launched at an Anglo-Irish summit, which some political sources suggest might be delayed until next week, after the annual conference of Sinn Fein, political wing of the Irish Republican

Army (IRA). The quest for peace by London and Dublin was

given a boost when the IRA saded its guerrilla campaign gainst British rule last ptember

Protestant extremists campaigning to protect the province's British links soon folowed suit

Officials expect the document to be put to the British and Irish cabinets within a few days. The governments want it to be the basis for

Unionists accuse Britain of betraying them in plans for executive-level cross-border institutions for trade, tourism, industry and other matters, asserting Dublin will be given an unprecedented footbold in running Northern

Ireland. The Irish government will have a say in the reshaping of the Northern Ireland police, the Sunday Telegraph reported here quoting plans outlined in a framework agreement to be published

The move follows a decision not to devolve law and order policy in Ulster to the new Northern Ireland Assembly which will be established if a peace settle-ment is reached," the paper, known for its pro-Unionist

legal minds of his generation

and became the youngest

man to he appointed queen's

counsel, or senior barrister,

in Scotland at age 38. From

1979 to 1982 he was solicitor-

A special election will be called later to replace Sir

Nicholas in the House of

Sir Nicholas was famed for

his unusual clothes, which

be designed bimself, his

ready wit and his direct man-ner. In Who's Who, he listed

his recreation as "drawing

ships, making quips, confounding whips (party lead-

ers), scuttling drips." He

often criticised bis own party.

the Perth and Kinross Con-

servative Association, paid

tribute to "the outstanding

political contribution" that Sir Nicholas made over the

"His colourful, dynamic

personality will be sorely

missed by his family, friends

and supporters in the consti-

tuency as well as by his many

friends and colleagues in the

"Scottish political life to-

Sec. Sec. Sec.

73.

Palace of Westminster.

past 22 years.

Martin Robb, chairman of

general for Scotland.

Commons.

leaning, said.

Sunday morning east of Veil-SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian ka Kladusa, stronghold of

government forces and Muslim rebels pounded each other with artillery and fought on the ground for a third day running Sunday near the rebel stronghold in Bihac enclave, a U.N. spokesman said

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev left Belgrade giving little away about his mission to persuade Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to put his weight behind in international peace plan for former Yugoslavia's multiple conflicts.

In another stop back in peace efforts. rival Bosnian Serb and Crost local commanders refused to attend scheduled meetings under U.N. auspices.

In Bihac, where a warwithin-a-war has raged for weeks despite the ceasefire in the main conflict, infantry backed by mortar barrages fought ever Saturday and

polling.

support of Mr. Abdic. Elsewhere, a meeting in central Bosnia between Serbs and Croats to discuss the

in late 1994 and the result IMPHAL, India (R) - Four people were killed and at least 17 injured in state elecbere could have a bearing on Mr. Rao's leadership. Results of the two-stage tion violence in Manipur. election — the first stage was northeast India, Sunday but last Thursday --- are expected voters turned out in large

next Thursday. numbers. "The elections have been Police blamed the People's marred by violence," said Liheration Army (PLA), a I.N. Vohra, a senior Manipur separatist militia dominated police official. by ethnic Metei, which had threatened to disrupt the

Police said two civilians were killed and 10 injured in The election, contested an exchange of fire after an mainly between Prime Minisambush by suspected memter P.V. Narasimha Rao's bers of the PLA. Five mem-Congress Party and the rebers of the security forces, were also hurt. gional Manipur People's Par-

Another suspected Metei ty, is part of a series of polls in six Indian states. radical was killed and two more were wounded in a Congress, which curruently holds power in Manipur, lost clash near a police station 40 three of four states that voted kilometres from the state

On Saturday, government officers cried off from a scheduled meeting with the Serbs. The ceasefire, designed to last four months and enconr-

after both sides refused to

attend, Col. Coward said.

age peace talks, has generally held since Jan. 1 but bas lately showed signs of strain. The United Nations said

Saturday Bosnian Serbs fired two mortar bombs into the Hrasnica residential area near Sarajevo airport, but there were no injuries.
It followed a shooting incident in which two Serbs, one

the Serb-held suburb of Vojkovici. Serbs fighting for an independent state in Bosnia have been besieging Sarajevo since

policeman, were killed in

April 1992. Mr. Kozyrev and Mr. Milosevic met in a bunning lodge Saturday in remote

northern Serbia to discuss a

Police said a fourth man

was killed about 30 kilometres from Imphal when

a hand grenade he inrew at a

crowd near a television

transmission station rebound-

Police found two explosive

devices hanging from a tree

in suburban Imphal while

another planted in a city

school was defused. Mr.

A television relay centre in

Imphal was set on fire just

hefore polling began, causing

extensive damage and cutting

off broadcasts relayed from

New Delhi, officials said.

Transmissions were later res-

The clashes came despite

capital Imphal.

ed and exploded.

Vohra said.

ing an official statement. plicated the crisis.

Mr. Milosevic would face

greater Serbia.

Bosnia truce shows strain: Russia works on Serbia wider ceasefire was called off

proposal by the big power contact group - Russia, the United States, France, Germany and Britain - for Serbia to recognise Bosnia and Croatia in return for a temporary suspension of sanc-The two men agreed that a lifting of sanctions was a first

and essential step to a settlement, Belgrade's Tanjug News Agency reported, quot-They said sanctions hindered peace efforts and com-

enormous domestic political opposition 10 cutting off Serb minorities in Croatia and Bosnia. effectively abandoning the nationalist dream of a

Mr. Kozyrev, whose government is Mr. Milosevic's ciosest international ally, has said the Serbian leader should not be pushed too

an intense security operation

which saw 40,000 men on the

streets to protect an electo-rate over 750,000 in the hilly

Chief electoral officer Jar-

nail Singh said the turnout

was more than 85 per cent.

People have been enthu-

siastic though bombs have

People brought painted

earthern pots and decorated

polling booths as Hindu sym-

bols of good omen and

offered prayers for peaceful

the security forces and we

want democracy." a woman

voter said in Imphal.

"We are voting because of

been thrown here and there,'

he told Reuters.

state bordering Burma.

LONDON (Agencies) --Prime Minister John Major's

precarious grip on power was weakened further Sunday by the death of a Conservative MP and signs that feuding within the ruling party over the European Union was refusing to die down. The death in hospital of Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, a maver-

with a tiny majority in his Scottish seat, reduces the government's already weak control over parliament. The Scottish Nationalists. just 2,094 votes behind Str Nicholas at the 1992 general election, look set to grab the Perthshire seat, theoretically

ick member of parliament

putting the Conservatives in a minority of seven in the House of Commons. Mr. Major's prospects of holding the constituency will-be fatally weakened if Con-servative infighting over

Europe continues

But the dispute showed few signs of ending Sunday as a former Conservative prime minister demanded the sacking of ministers who did not subscribe to Mr. Major's call for Britain to be "at the heart of Europe."

In an article in the News Of

The World newspaper, Edward Heath, who as premier took Britain into the European Union in the 1970s. "If there are those minis-

ters who find they cannot accept our commitment to a Britain at the heart of

Major's grip on power weakens as MP dies Europe, then they must follow the honourable course

> "And if they show a reluctance to do that, the prime minister should urge them on their way."
> But another former Con-

servative cabinet minister and party chairman launched an attack on Mr. Major, saying he bad failed to secure Britain's right to control immigration during negotia-tions on the EU's Maastricht Treaty.

Former Interior Minister Kenneth Baker said Mr. Major and Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd had wished to concentrate on other objectives such as Britain's right to opt out of a single European currency and common labour market regulations.

"Both Douglas and John were right to focus on the currency and social chapter opt-outs. But the need to reaffirm the old commitment on border control fell by the wayside," Mr. Baker said.

His article reopened Conservative wounds on the issue which surfaced eight days ago when a junior minister. Charles Wardle, resigned, saying that Britain had ceded rights to make passport checks on people entering from other EU states.

Mr. Major last week attempted to stop the party battles over Europe, which have already lead to nine Conservative MPs being expelled from the parliamentary party. He demanded that his cabinet should stick closely to official policy in public. But the result appears have to have been merely to encourage former party heavyweights to pick up the

"Eurosceptic" former Fi-nance Minister Norman Lamont Friday accused Mr. Major of failing to commit bimself on whether Britain should join a single EU currency, saying "deciding to be undecided" would solve no-

Following Sir Nicholas' death, Mr. Major bas a majority of only 12 seats in the Commons even if the nine expelled Eurorebels are with few Conservative

seats safe in the present poli-

tical climate, by-elections could cancel out that majority before the next general election due in May, 1997. In a by-election last week, the Conservative candidate won less than four per cent of the vote in a South Wales

the 1992 election. Sir Nicholas, who was 61, died late Saturday from the

constituence where the party

gained almost 15 per cent at

The Baron of Fordell was elected an MP in 1974, and represented the Scottish district of Perth and Kinross until his death.

complications of a bver dis-

day stands diminished by his Sir Nicholas is survived by his wife and three daughters.

He will be buried in the family crypt at St. Theriot's Chapel, Fordell Castle, in private ceremony. A memor nai service to celebrate his life and work will be held a He had one of the brightest St. John's Church, in Perth



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Meighbour Europe can do

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein's televised message Saturday to the Paris symposium on "the future of the Mediterranean area after the peace process" contained a challenge not only to the immediate parties in the Middle East peace process but also to the international community, especially the Europeans. Granted peace-making has yet to attain its full and complete goals in the region due to the near stalemate on the Syrian and Palestinian fronts with Israel, as the King indeed cautioned, but peace-building must begin here and now in order to consolidate the gains already achieved and lay the groundwork for further progress.

This means that the infrastructures for reconstruction, rehabilitation and the forging of regional economic and fiscal cooperation need to be built now so that the foundations for joint efforts and lasting stability can be laid, perhaps along the lines of the Helsinki formula for European security and cooperation. This will necessarily entail investment in and preparedness for peace-building since without initiating and nurturing this process, the effort to make peace will falter.

Europe especially is well placed to play a "crucial" role in this endeavour. There is too much poverty, great disparities in incomes and rapid rise in unemptation in the region, the monarch reminded his audience, and this cannot be conducive for consolidating the peace process. The peoples of the area need to see and feel the fruits of peace that they have been promised and expected. And unless the international community can deliver on pledges of support, faith and trust in peace with Israel could erode quickly.

The Europeans who neighbour the Middle East and who can feel the reverberations of the region's turnoil cannot afford to sit back and let the Americans (plus some Russian involvement) handle the entire file.

The Europeans know for sure that the U.S. cannot always play a positive role in influencing the negotiations between the Arabs and the Israelis, especially since the Americans are either unwilling or unable to use their unlimited support for the Jewish state as a weapon to pressure

The recent shift in policy by the secretariat of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in Brussels should be a strong indicator for Europe's political leadership to ponder and assess. The Secretary-General of Europe's foremost security body now sees more threat to the continent's stability from the south rather than from eastern Europe, and he would therefore like to forge new strategic links with North African countries instead of concentrating all efforts on the former communist bloc in Europe. While the NATO generals might soon start to entertain a military solution to the perceived threat from North Africa or the Middle East, it is boned that the politicians would preempt such a trend and opt for addressing the root causes of extremism in this part of the world.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Ra'i Sunday suggested that the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan conduct a survey to sound out public views on normalisation with Israel. After the success of the centre in reflecting the trend in public thinking regarding the peace process, union between the two banks and other issues of concern to the public, it is hoped that the centre would turn its attention to measuring the public response to the prospect of normalisation with the Jewish state, as this is a very important issue and constantly on the mind of Jordanian citizens, said Mohmoud Rimawi. The writer said that a wide spectrum of society, including writers, politicians and professionals, are woncering about the meaning or the concept of normalisation, which is often referred to in the media. He said that the centre at the University of Jordan has won credibility for its objective surveys and it would be most beneficial to the Jordanian people to learn about the facts of normalisation, especially as the professional unions in the Kingdom nave shown strong apposition to any kind of normalisation with Israel. The Jordanian public's views about normalisa-tion are still a mystery, unlike the case in Israel where polls are conducted about almost any issue of concern to the Israeli society, continued the writer. He said that an opinion poll in this case would be most helpful to the politicians, and decision makers and would help the country to take the right decisions.

A WRITER in Al Dustour discussed the conditions of schools run by the Ministry of Education. It is regrettable to see newly built schools lacking heating facilities, which is most harmful to the health of the children in the cold season, said Mohammad Daoud. Having built a modern school, the Ministry of Education should provide these schools with heating facilities to safeguard the children's health, said the writer. It is no longer acceptable to see modern buildings that cost a fortune lacking the basic facilities for hearing, added the writer.

Human Rights File

By Waleed Sa'di

Concern for 'family status' is not discrimination

THE MINISTRY of Foreign Affairs has recently stirred a homet's nest for women when it announced that female applicants for diplomatic posts must be single. Womens' associations in the country immediately reacted and cried foul when they read the announcement in a daily newspaper. The ministry was specifically charged with discriminating against women in violation of the country's internation-

al treaty obligations.

A closer look at the issue, however, would reveal no such discrimination on the basis of sex. What is at issue here is differential treatment on the basis of "family status." The government is not ruling out women applicants for work at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Accordingly, there is no ground for the claim that the government is discriminating

on the basis of gender per se.

A more difficult and thorny subject is the "discrimination" on the basis of family status and this is where the international human rights jurisprudence has yet to develop into black and white clarity. The rule of thumb in human rights jurisprudence thus far condones differential treatments on the basis of family status as long as it is "reasonable." In other words, single women can be treated differently from married ones. By the same token, married men can be afforded a different treatment from single men. It is a foregone conclusion that married people, whether men or women, have a distinguishable set of rights and duties from the single people.

The main bone of contention for the champions of womens' rights in this case should be whether the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is reasonable in rejecting unmarried women at a time when it accepts men applicants who are

single or even divorced.

In the case of Jordan, I believe that the "discrimination" between single men and women is reasonable and dictated by the social fabric in the country. There will come a time when social habits will change, rendering this currently "reasonable" differential treatment "mreasonable." Till that moment in time arrives, it would be safe to contend

that the existing differential treatment is reasonable.

I hasten to explain that the rationale behind this line of thinking rests basically on the premise that married men in Jordan are not likely to follow their wives when posted outside the country. Men are still the basic breadwinners and educated Jordanian men have their own careers to nurture and develop. When the time comes for a women diplomat to be posted outside the country, something which is highly probable if not a sure thing, a family crisis could ensue with a high probability for a family breakdown occurring as a result. I concede that in due course, this social structure would change whereby women, whether married or not, would pursue their own careers independently of their husbands. Of course, when this happens, it will not happen without a price as indeed is the case in the industrialised countries.

An interim middle course can be followed in this context by accepting married women applicants as long as they forefeit their right to be posted in a foreign country. Admittedly, married women assigned to work at the ministry would not pose all the problems inherent in their assignments outside the country. Perhaps the minister of foreign affairs would accept this middle course as a temporary panacea to the conflicting claims.

The great Atlantic drift away

By Martin Woollacott

A NEW ATLANTIC pact is the latest idea to emerge from the back rooms where diplomats and security experts cook up possible remedies for our troubles. It is a common reaction, when institutions are failing, to draw up ambitious plans for expansion. So it is with NATO, some of whose members — including France, Germany and Britain — are now said to be in favour of a new agreement, supplementing the original treaty and giving it economic and political chapters to add to redefined military

purposes. There could hardly be a clearer example of fiddling while Rome burns. NATO is drifting towards a hune crisis over Bosnia and Croatia, a crisis which could see Europe and America bereft of even a semblance of a common policy. U.S. disinterest in foreign affairs except where they impinge directly on the American economy has never been deeper. Europe's own internal contradictions are similarly turning it in on itself. It is odd, to say the least of it, that a number of countries should be reviving proposals for the enhancement of the Atlantic commonity that failed to gain support when circumstances were more propitious 20 or 30 years ago.

On one level, the proposals are indeed not much more than diplomatic make-work in the face of mminent collapse. Foreign offices must have something to do, and the habit of 40 years in the alliance has been to devise projects. achieve agreements and institute new arrangements. That is how, in the past, it has been kept together. On another level, however, they testify to the dawning consciousness, on both sides of the Atlantic, that there has been a sudden and quite frightening loss of will in both the U.S. and

Europe. Henry Kissinger has written that the European and American diplomatic tradinons oppose the concept of "foreign policy as a balanc-ing of interests and diplomacy as an affirmation of an undertying harmony This tension in the past led to a cycle of difficulties. compromises and phases of successful common action. But what has changed now is more than just the end of the cold war. There has been an erosion of the belief that the West, as the richest and most modern portion of human society. has a special responsibility for the world as a whole. These questions of national and civilising mis-

sion should not be underestimated. Such certainties about purpose have been the engine of effective action in the past. constituting faiths for which men would work and sometimes die. The U.S. seems no longer to have the sense that it has a duty to a world which it is leading towards a common future, a future in which all will live by American norms. Europe, meanwhile, has lost the sureness with which France and GerRather than strengthening NATO as trouble-shooter, plans for a new international pact testify to a frightening loss of will in both the U.S. and Europe



many, if not Britain, were able to calculate the old continent's interests and plan its resurgence during the period of super-power

Recently, Volker Rühe, Germany's defence minister, called at a conference for a "new, wider trans-Atlantic contract" which would add a parallel economic organisation to NATO and extend security cooperation to give it a worl-dwide range. Klaus Kinkel, Malcolm Rifkind and Alain Juppé, the French foreign minister, alt followed through with similar remarks. Everybody here is. to some extent. playing familiar games. The Germans are pursuing the idea of a special partnership with the U.S. that Mr. Clinton dramatised in his Berlin visit last year. The British government is interested in any attempt to repair the Irans-Atlantic breach which might partly restore Britain's previously pivotal role. Mr. Juppe's position reflects the shift in French policy from the aggressive pursuit of a European defence identity, through to a more cooperative altitude to NATO and on to a refuctant recognition of the need to offset German strength by moving a little closer to the British and the Amer-

icans.

At the same time, since the French concept of a revised Atlantic treaty would be of one between two entities, the U.S. and the European Union, rather than another pact between to states. Paris can continue to push for the

"equal" Atlantic relationship it has always demanded.

The Atlantic community is a phrase that has not been much heard in recent years. A long time ago it signified the idea that America and Europe might move along the path towards federation, a notion which the common market and then the European Community effectively displaced. although vestigial political institutions like the North Atlantic Assembly remain. Efforts to revise the North Atlantic Treaty so as to give economic and political cooperation a weight approaching that of military affairs are not new. Mr. Kennedy made a stab in this direction, as did Mr. Kissinger in the early seventies, with his Year of Europe. So did Mr. MacMillan, after being disappointed by De Gaulle. As recently as 1990. James Baker called for a period of European-American dialogue, and Lord Carrington has been another recent advocate of change. What came to be called

the Atlantic community. Mr. Kissinger wrote in his book "Diplomacy". "has been marking time ... NATO has come to be taken as part of a landscape that needs no further tending." It is true that there are, in theory, some attractions to the ideas being floated now. A new Atlantic pact might keep in check the harsher economic competition between the U.S. and Europe which has emerged since the end of

the cold war. Skilfully man-

aged, a new pact could bring a paper reconciliation of American, French, British and German views of the Atlantic relationship. Again on paper, it could underwrite the transformation of the military structures from an anti-Soviet alliance to a general purpose organisation with peacekeeping and even peace-making in mind. It would fit into President Clinton's scheme for treaties with the world's great economic regions, and as a piece of theatre it

might help him fight the isolationism of Congress. Unhappily, what is going on is more an example of displacement activity, a means by which attention is distracted from what is really going wrong. What the Atlantic alliance needs, above all, is a couple of successful common operations. The opportunity for common military action still exists in former Yugoslavia but has not been taken. The opportunity for common political action exists in the shape of the East European applications to join NATO.

Again, it has been fudged.

The loss of purpose evident in both continents underlies both failures, and can hardly be repaired by piling additional alliance structures on those that are already weakening. How it can be renewed, if it can be renewed, is a mystery that lies below the level at which diplomats and bureaucrats do their work.

The Guardian.

Let's get together to halt unraveling of society

By Boutros Ghali

THE UNITED NATIONS, New York—In Less than a month, heads of state and government from every part of the planet will meet at the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen. They will address a crisis that would have been unimaginable a decade ago: the unraveling of society.

of society.

The crisis is of a different order from the ideology-driven nuclear peril of the cold war. Yet it threatens many nations — ultimately the whole world — as much as any weapon of mass des-

truction.
The danger signs are everywhere.

At a time of unprecedented material progress and economic prosperity, more than a billion people—one in five—live in crushing poverty, amid rising population pressures, disease and dwindling resources. Jobs in almost every country—in some cases whole industries—are vanishing in a rush of global economic and technological change. For many, real wages are declining. Social services are eroding. Crime, terrorism, drug trafficking and abuse have become everyday features of modern life.

At the same time, disputes rooted in political, economic, ethnic, tribal and environmental factors are triggering carnage and chaos in several parts of the world — and diverting the international community's resources into costly peacekeeping operations.

peacekeeping operations.
Governments alone cannot control the causes of social dislocation and alienation. Yet they have to face their consequences. Ordinary people hold governments responsible for joblessness, for economic social services. The possibility situations are tailor made for demagogues, and for organised crime.

and for organised crime.

The United Nations was founded 50 years ago to ensure the territorial security of member states. But in the last several years only a tiny fraction of the conflicts around the world have involved outside aggressors. What is now under siege is something different: the security of people in their homes, jobs and communi-

This erosion of personal security is making people profoundly pessimistic. Many no longer see the prospect of better time. There is a rising sense if cynicism not only about political processes but all out the efficacy of democracy itself. For the poor, in particular, there is rising bitterness and frustration over the widening gulf between haves and have-nota.

The exclusion of citizens
— and entire nations —
from resources, technology
and knowledge has brought
increasingly aggressive re-

Unemployment, poverty and social disintegration face societies everywhere. Each contains features unique to every country and region. Yet none of them, it is increasingly apparent, can be met except through international cooperation.

The World Summit for Social Development, from March 6 to 12, will provide a forum for leaders to make a conceptual breakthrough—to go beyond armed territorial security towards enhancing human well-being through development.

The summit is an opportunity for government, citizens' groups, business leaders and other representatives of civil society to focus attention on these critical issues, to share information, ideas and experiences, and to frame goals and stimulate action

on shared problems.

Specific objectives of the Copenhagen summit should include significantly reducing the proportion of people living in absolute poverty, with special attention to the least developed countries, particularly those of sub-Saharan Africa; creating new forms of productive employment and sustainable livelihoods; and reducing disparities among income classes, sexes, ethnic groups, geographical regions and nations.

The World Summit for Social Development is the gathernajor international United Nations to make poverty, nnemployment and social disintegration a principal focus. It is a priceless opportunity for leaders to rethink the policies and objectives of the welfare state model in industrialised countries, and of poverty-reduction strategies in developing countries.

The writer is Secretary-General of the United Nations. This article is reprinted from the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS

Dealing with SLE

To the Editor:

ANY OF us could have "Systemic Lupus Erythmatoses" or "LUPUS" (SLE) and not know about it, thinking its symptoms are just usual body nature and live a normal life. One advice though: Reading too much in medical books or specialised literature about SLE can cause problems; leave medicine to doctors. But reading general essays and participating in group meeetings help a lot in easing the worries and suffering it causes.

For a start, I would like to give you an idea about SLE. It is an auto-immune disease which means that extra anti-bodies are produced inside our bodies and they attack various organs, tissues and any inner parts of the body itself. It is considered a rheumatic disease: It causes photosensitivity, joint pain and weakness. Its main feature, nowever, is a butterfly rash over the cheeks, nose and forehead

SLE could be very dangerous if neglected. But with the help of the right doctor, the tests and medication he prescribes, things can be better and you can live a normal life. Dangerous though its sounds, SLE could be very mild and disappear for no reason just as it came.

Its cause is yet unknown but it is still being researched. SLE has had a great effect on my life. Being a married stormen with personneithings and a job. I have neglected the

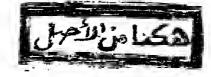
Its cause is yet unknown but it is still being researched. SLE has had a great effect on my life. Being a married woman with responsibilities and a job, I have neglected the disease for a while. Then, I had to go to the hospital for overworking myself and ignoring the doctors' orders. As a result, I was hospitalised for a whole month and a half. I have suffered a lot physically, psychologically and emotionally. Moral: one's health is very important and one should not let life's' responsibilities and worries ruin it.

should not let life's responsibilities and worries rum it.

I suggest that we should consider forming an SLE society or foundation for helping patients. At least patients should contact each other through doctors. I really think this will help a lot.

Layla Audi Tahabsem,

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.



alliance against him; he also surrounded himself with

bankers and policemen who have one by one trooped

into prison under suspicion

He does not eling to pow-

er for personal aggrandise-

ment or enrichment. "Being in power seems enough for him," said one

supporter. Despite the

sleaze lapping at his ankles.

even his bitterest foes have

been unable to pin upon

him personally any hint of

of corruption.

Features Features



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∝ Ghali NATIONS. n Less than a of state and from every

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Social Develop

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Til being result in the first of the house o A least of thick Layla Audi Tabba

Tallian.

The state of the s coming period.

THEN FELIPE Gonzalez as campaigning for the ections that swept him to ower in 1982, it was said e had his sideboards tinted ilver to make him look nore statesmanlike. He was only 40 although he had peen politically active for 18 years, 13 of them fighting Franco's dictatorship.

More than vanity made him go to such lengths to project his gravitas. Only 18 months before, a colonel in the civil guard, Antonio Te-jero, had marched into parliament and beld nearly every politician in Spain at ganpoint for 24 hours. Veteran socialists, elected by the people, crouched on the floor of the chamber and ate their party cards in fear of reprisals by Francoists. The elections in October 1982 produced a Socialist fandshide which, to everyone's surprise and relief, the armed foxees accepted without a mur-

"This victory," Mr. Gonzalez said, "more than that of a party, is the victory of democracy and the Spanish people." This was not just betone. The moment Mr. Gonzalez hecame prime minister marked the realisanon that Spain's peaceful transition in democracy had succeeded. It showed the world that the Franco era was finished for good.

Since then, every big decision in Spain has passed through Felipe Gonzalez's bands. Successes during the boom years of the eighties made him believe that he could control cirumstances and determine the destiny of his country. But as the world recession hattered the Spanish economy, unemployment stuck at one in four and corruption seethed and hubbled around him, the people did not have to ask who was responsible: They started to send him

Mr. Gonzalez was born in 1942 in the southern city of Seville. One of four children of a modest dairy farmer, he was the only one to go to university, where he studied law. A diligent stu-dent, his first political act was to protest against a visit to Seville in 1963 by Fran-co's tourism minister Manution People's Pury opposi-

He studied economics for six months at Louvain university in Belgium; on his return to Sevi set up as a labour lawyer and swiftly won a reputation for defending workers unfairly sacked by theit cm-

He struck up with another, more acerhic young lawyer, Alfonso Guerra, and between them they started to rehuild the once-mighty Socialist Party throughout Andalncia, cell hy cell, village hy village. Most of the old exiled socialists from the civil war were out of touch with what

Long-distance runner on his last lap

Felipe Gonzalez was the saviour of the Spanish left, but his scandal-struck administration cannot last for ever. Elizabeth Nash examines the leader's long career





by Europe's social Pietfol

cratie leaders. Felipe Gon-zalez - still known by his

nom-de-guerre, "Isidoro"
— was elected leader of the

still illegal party at a confer-

ence held outside Paris in

By 1977 the party was

legalised in Spain, and with-

in weeks he was on the hustings and elected MP in

the first free elections since

1936. Unusually tall in a

nation of short men, he

strolled into the limelight

and charmed a nation with

his natural assurance, his

boy-next-doot smile, his

hlack hair flopping on to his

open collar and his com-

manding platform manner.

By speaking as if to his

1974.

Felipe, above, the right man at the right moment, pulling together the Spanish Socialists with the help of Germany's Willy Brandt and Britain's Michael Foot in 1976; left, the victor of the 1982 election: top right, the statesman with Chancellor Helmut Kohl; right depression as crises gather

gress after congress in those position, in the delicious knowledge that getting it night would take it into power. Mr. Gonzalez was perfect, the right man at the right moment. Spaniards adored him. The whole country called him relipe In 1978, aftet a huge debate, the Socialist Party decided to define itself as Marxist. Thousands of delegates flung their fists in the air and roared the Interna-

nonale. At this moment. Felipe Gonzalez casually resigned. I am not a Marxist, he said. never have been, and you can call the party Marxist if you want to but not with me as leader. He was more

interested in winning the majority of Spaniards than in ideological purity. And he walked off the platform. The party was stunned. It swiftly watered down the refetence to Marx and in a

few months Mt. Gonzalez came back. The comrades matched right and into government. and everyone learned the lesson: Without Felipe the Socialist Party was nothing. After his election victory in 1982, he spoke from a prepared text for the first time. always wore a tie, stopped giving the clenched-fist sa-

Henceforth everything in the party and the country took place on Mr. Gonzalez's terms, and this is

shady dealing or improprie-But he and his team, so fresh and eager in 1982, now sit in their ministries drained of enthusiasm and ideas, paralysed in the face of the crisis that will not go

Mr. Gonzalez, never 2 great man for detail, became hored with day-to-day domestie politics. He im-mured himself in his Monoloa palace, rarely appeared in parliament, suffered periodic fits of depression and became disinclined to listen to advice. He broke with his lifelong friend and righthand man, Alfenso Guerra, whose brother was involved in a scandal. Other close friends let him cown.

The party in the country shrivelled, Worst of all, no one stepped forward, nor was groomed, to pump new blood into the old leadership. The Socialist Party, after the trauma of 1978 continues to be a oneman

fn the seventies. Mr. Gonzalez admitted that he was an insomniae and that he smoked too many cigats. He said his favourite book was Don Outrote, that he found it relaxing. Today Mr. Gonzalez's whole nead is flecked with grey, and he probably longs sometimes to slip from public view and settle down with Cervantes and a Havana.

But not yet. He wants to ride the crisis and go when he chooses. In particular he has set his heart on heading Spain's EU presidency. which starts in July.

A friend of Mr. Gon-

zalez, who has worked with him throughout his career, said this week: "Felipe is a long-distance runner. He will nevet quit when things are going wrong for him. He was preparing to resign at a moment when things were going well, but then all these problems started. Now that everything is going wrong he will never

But Mr. Gonzalez himelf seems aware that he is on the last lap. "After so many years in government t have lost credibility." he admitted in parliament re-

None the less he has now emharked on a race against time, in an effort to outstrip the tumbling avalanche of scandal and sleaze before it engulfs him.

The Independent

Treaty precedent for Arab peace with Israel

(Continued from page 1) anybody's hand," His Majesty said, adding that Jordan will not allow anybody to force it to adjust its policies in a way that would suit others' requirements.
Responding to a question,

the King said Jordan's position on the signing of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is a principled one that is not necessarily connected to the Egyptian or Israeli stands. He explained that Jordan demands that all weapons of mass destruction in the area be eliminated, expressing hope that the countries of the region will reach agreement on this

King Hussein said that the Kingdom's ties with the Arab Gulf countries "are much better than they used to be (after the Gulf war)," and he expressed hope that they will be restored to their previous levels. The King stressed his concern for the Iraqi people, saying he hoped that Iraq will once again be able to play its role in the region.

Following are excerpts from the Al Hayat interview: On obstacles to normalisa-

tion of ties with Israel: "We do not believe that there are obstacles that cannot be overcome in time. Some of us might have opinions on normalisation that have to do with persons and their feelings. I be-lieve that the great majority (of the people) is aware that there has to be progress (in the implementation) of what has been agreed upon in order to meet the needs of the people in the

"This can only come through working in this new atmosphere on the basis of two aspects. The first is the (feeling of) security in the present and the future, which is something that was missing in

the past. The second (aspect) is that many opportunities have been made available by the new circumstances. We have restored our land and water and now we have recognised international borders (with Israel). I believe that some time will pass (before) the expectations for a fast change (are realised). Most of the projects (expected of the peace process) are big projects. There was an ecocomic summit in Casab-lanca, which will be followed by a summit in Ammao this year (to discuss these projects). I believe it will be possible to shed the light on certain projects and things would consequently move in the right direction."

Gonzalez and Mr. Guerra

started to organise a new generation of socialists in-

In July 1969 he borrowed

Guerra's Renault and drove

to Bayonne to a meeting of

the PSOE executive to de-

liver some home truths to

the party's exiled leadership

about the resurgence in

Andalucia. Such was his

eagerness to make the trip

that he missed the civil

ceremony of his wedding to

Carmen Romero: A friend

started to enlist the support

of other European socialist

Olaf Palme and especially

Willy Brandt, who came to

leaders, Bruno Kreisky,

Mt. Gonzalez quietly

stood in for him.

ON the impact of the difficulties of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations on the implementation of Jordanian-Israeli accords and the development of bilateral rela-

"I have spoken of, and will always repeat, our concern that the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty be... part of the process of iding comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the whole area. We hope that work will continue on other tracks with the objecon whether lorden has fears that Israel will not abide by all its commitments to Jordan under

Everything that has been agreed upon so far has been implemented... (Israefi) withdrawal from (Jordanian) land has been completed... (agreements) on water are in their way (to implementation)... everything is working according to what has

been agreed on. "As an observer, (I have an) observation on the Oslo accord (which is in a desperate situation)... it seemed to me, for example, that when (the Palestitrians and the Israelis) agreed that the period of five years (from the signing of the Oslo accord) is the period in which steps for tackling the major prob-lems are taken... I believe that what (they aimed at was the creation) of a different atmos-

phere from the one which we are currently living in, in terms of security, stability and giving people the feeling that the new situation will lead them to the desired result... this has not materialised... hence is the talk now about entering directly into dealing with the big issues (the final status negotiations). "We watch with concern how

things will proceed towards the desired solution... "At the same time, I have said and will say again (that Jordan is ready) to support our brethren... once we understand what they want us to offer.

"I believe that the new Jordanian-Israeli situation could help (to bring about progress) on the Palestinian track or any other Arab-Israeli track... we will not impose ourselves.... but we will heed any call (for help)."

ON whether Jordan is ready to bave confederation with the Palestinian entity:

No, I (will not address the final shape of Jordanian-Palestinian relations) until our Palestinian brethren restore their rights on their national soil (and before the Palestinians) are able to decide under conditions of full freedom... to enter into a dia-logue on the form of relations they want... My position on this is firm, as was my position in negotiating with Israel, that we will not sign a peace treaty first and then start negotiating. First we negotiate and if we agree on everything we sign the peace

"(Palestinians) are the closest to us and we are the closest to them... but we have had it with doubts and suspicions." ON the importance of closer coordination with Palestituans

for the interest of the two peo-"We welcome closer (coordination). We bave always called for coordination."

ON whether Iordan will agree to be a partner with the Palestinians in the final status negotiations:

"No."
ON whether Jordanian-Israeli peace is warmer than the Egyptian-Israeli peace:

educated but not patrician,

familiar hut not conde-

scending, ironical but not

abrasive, young, handsome

model for a generation of

young Spaniards bored and tepelled by the Franco

strait-jacket. And his soft

Sevillian consonants reas-

sured Spain's proud regions

that he was no part of Mad-

The late 1970s were excit-

ing times in Spain. With

Franco dead and the demo-

cratic forces pushing ahead.

there was everything to play

for. The Socialist Party.

emerging from its clandes-

tine existence and bulging

with new recruits, held con-

rid's Castillian elite.

and serious, the perfect role \

"It is difficiult to determine the characteristics of the Egyprian-Israeli peace. As for us here in Jordan ... (there are many factors that make the situations different). There is our desire 10 give our Jordanian people the opportunity to realise (their potentials). We will implement the peace treaty fully..."
ON his views on the Alexandria

"We have no objection to any Arab summit. On the contrary, we welcome it... ON the Cairo summit: "I believe it gave the impression that (the relations) were as

desired ... we hope relations (between Jordan and Egypt) will itt the future be as they once

ON the Egyptian-Israeli dispute over the NPT: "I believe that the elimination

of mass destruction weapons and the prevention of their development io this area are (vital requirements). What we wish for is an agreement on the elimination of these weapons in the whole area. The issue is not exclusively an Egyptian-Israeli one." The Jordanian position is a

principled one. It is not conneeted to the Egyptian and Israeli stands..." ON Syrian accusations that Jordan moved fast to normalise ries "In my last (meeting with with Israel:

Syrian President Hafez At Asad) I told him that Syria can afford to (move slower than Jordan in its negotiation with Israell and that if the right conditions present themselves, we will move to-wards peace and we are for a comprehensive solution.

"My relations with President Assad go back a long time and he is a brother and a friend. I believe that he will be fair in his

"As for accusations (against Jordan) they are many and there is nothing new in that. But we

hope that Arab relations will not be formed on the basis of such considerations and that we will not go to that level in making accusations. Making accusations of treason and then reversing them are easy to do."

On the King's perception of the solution to the refugees and dis-placed Palestinian persons: "(As for the displaced per-

sons) there is an arrangement for a mechanism to deal with this issue. There is a Palestinian-lordanian-Israeli comminee (to deal with it). IAs for refugees) the solution is related to international legitimacy and the right to compensation or to return. But until [a solution] materialises, we in Jordan, regardiess of origins, have become one family and we will remain so and will protect national unity. But if anybody chooses a different situation at any stage (they are free to do

ON Jordan's relations with the Gulf countries:
"Relations (with Gulf countries) are much better than they were (after the Gulf war). They are moving in the right direction. We hope they will be restored to their (previous level)." ON whether Jordan feels more

secure after the signing of the peace treaty and whether there are threats that still justify its efforts to modernise its army: "Jordan needs to modernise and develop its Armed Forces so that it can protect itself, its

democracy. And fulfil its duty if there is a need for it in this area or (in U.N. peacekeeping missions)." ON the regional role for the Armed Forces: ("Jordan helped train armies

of other Arab countries) and had the honour of fulfilling its duty towards its brethren when it was asked during the first Kuwaiti crisis (in the sixties) and in Oman. There is a role for (the Jordanian Armed Forces) — We are still speaking of one nation. We cannot forget this. But the important thing is that Jordan will no: be a force that will threaten anybody. The basic thing is that Jordan has the right to exercise its right to self-

defence." ON whether Jordan is still calling

for a rapid deployment Arab force and on the nature of the major threats facing the Arah

Threats are numerous... but (as for) the call I for an Arab rapid deployment force), we have labandoned it for the time being). We spoke of an Arab regimeot. I don't think that our proposal (for the regiment) was inappropriate. Ooe day we might adopt this idea again."

ON the Iraqi role in the peace

"Iraq must be a part of this area and a pan of its nation. My area and a pan of its nation. My concern and pain is for the Iraqi people and their suffering. Nothing more, nothing less. It is inevitable that Iraq ones again becomes pan of this area. It is a must that the suffering of the Iraqi people, and I repeat people, ends... This situation cannot last."

ON whether the sanctions will be lifted this year:

"I have no idea. Hopefully
there will be a thaw. That would at least have positive implications for the Iraqi people.

ON whether the peace process is

irreversible:

We hope so." ON Jordan's position on the Western policy of dual contain-ment of Iraq and fran and whether it is possible that it will produce opposite results from those desired from it: "We have nothing to do with it. It is possible that (it will lead

to opposite results from those expected of it)." ON whether Jordan is willing to freeze the peace treaty with Israel to improve ties with Syria:

"No, we are not willing to delay the implementation (of the treaty). We will implement what we commined ourselves to. No one would have listened to us had we objected if (the Syrians moved before Jordan Iowards signing a peace treaty with Israel)... There is no doubt in the Israel)... There is no doubt in the inevitability of the continuation of the peace process on the other tracks (of peace talks with Israel) including the Syrian track."

ON whether the peace treaty with Israel has weakened the

Syrian negotiating position: "Jordan is not a card in any-body's hand. It never was and warned.

giants to join in a historie will never be. It is unacceptable that anyone I forces us 1 to adjust our policies and situation in this country in accordance with what

why, even if nothing is ever

proved to link him with the activities of the Gar anti-

terronst death squads dur-

ing the early days of his premiership, he will proh-ably have to take the

During the 1980s he took

Spain into Eurpoe, relished

state visits. European sum-

mits, won election after

election, not least hecause

no opposition politician

came near him for tiron, or

Through force of will and

what you might call hrute

charm, he pushed through

unpopular measures such as

NATO membership and

labour laws that prompted

the two rival trade union

pulling power.

they want.
"Such was the case with Israel when it insisted that we sign a peace treaty before (completing the negotiations) and we rejected that. This is our position vis-a-vis any side that thinks of Jordan as a follower and not a sisterly (state)... (Arab relations) should be balanced so that we achieve

our goals. peace treaty with Israel) should have weakened (the Syrian negotiating position) in any way. On the contrary, it could be a precedent (for moving) in the right direction." ON the Arab differences over the Iranian role in the area and the mechanism for forming a

common Arab position towards Regrettably, such a mechanism does not exist. For example, all the Arabs have (played a role) in paralysing the Arab League and thindering its ability to per-

form its duties). (So have they weakened) the Arab summit institution. We hope it will be reactivated.

"Our relations with Iren are good and (based on) mutual respect. We have no problem. We were careful that relations are developed on the basis of understanding on the highest levels that would define the red and green lines. Relations are normal

at this stage.

There are many problems in this area. They have to be tack-led. (If Arabs have bener relations, especially at the highest levels) I believe the situation wil. be much better."
ON Israeli fears that better

Jordanian ties with some other Arab countries will negatively affect Jordanian-Israeli peace: "No. Jordan is part of this nation, it was with it in all its battles. Jordan made sacrifice (for the Arab Nation) and will continue to do so. It is strange

that some have the impression that Jordan is senarated from it

PLO to chart new strategy

(Continued from page 1)

But Israel has baulked at setting a new date for a troop pullback from Palestinian towns on the West Bank fearing that it will leave the 130,000 settlers there exposed following a wave of anni-Israeli attacks.

"The Israelis must know that we are responsible for their security and that without good relations with the Palestinians it will not be assured," Mr. Surani said.

"Israel can take care of its external security with its army hut on the inside we are the ones responsible. If there is no solution then everything will be turned upside down. Neither Europe nor the United States will he spared," he

Mr. Arafat met with Mr. Peres for less than an hour at a Paris hotel but made no comment to reponers foilowing the talks. The meeting had been arranged on the fringes of a U.N. organised conference on peace prospects in the Mediterranean

"The problems remain," Mr. Peres told reporters before leaving for Israel.

Mr. Arafat had earlier ac caused Israel of breaching it: peace deal with the Palestinians, citing practices such as collective punishment, lanc confiscation and closing of the West Bank and Gaza

Strip.
"The Palestinian problen lies at the beart of the (Mid die East) conflict," he tolc TUNIS (R) — Algeria, after over 30 years of state control, has started negotiating with trade unions on privatising its mismanaged and mostly-

broke public companies.

The discussions follow at least two years of tentative efforts to loosen the shackles of inefficient bureaucracy. and coincide with talks io obtain cash from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to fund and cushion the

changeover. Someone at last is starting to bite some very nasty bullets on the economy," an Algiers-based Western diplomat commented. "On a

macro-economic level somebody is doing quite well."

Around 400 state com-

"At the approach of the signing of a three-year IMF facility agreement, the government through the restructuring ministry has started meeting the social partners at various levels over a draft law on privatisation," Algerian state radio said Sunday.

The draft defines privatisa-

transfer of ownership or manlack of a stock exchange and the arcbaic local banking sys-

serves and even get involved

in existing fields.

Talks with the IMF started in Geneva last Thursday and Algerian officials expect an agreement to be signed next

"probably over \$1 billion," according to the official news agency APA. Finance Minister Ahmad Benbitour said an agreement would release "large financial facilities" and enable Algeria to go ahead with reforms.

Algerian officials believe an IMF agreement would give the greeo light to other financial bodies to be flexible

nance and reschedule Alger-

mated at up to \$3 billion and due before 1988.

Algerian trade unions fear widespread layoffs if state firms are privatised. Unemployment is already about 25 per cent and officials fear more layoffs will fuel the discontent they say feeds the ranks of Muslim fuodamentalists whom they hlame for the past three years

RIYADH (Agencies) — Arah Gulf oil ministers en-

ded talks in Riyadb Saturday

with officials saying they

were unhappy at overproduc-

tion and low oil prices. Qatar's Oil Minister

Abdullah Bin Hamad Al

Attiyah said after talks with

his counterparts from Saudi

Arabia, Oman, United Arab

Emirates (UAE), Bahrain

and Kuwait that current oil

not satisfactory," be told re-

porters. "Prices in 1973 were

better than now."
The six Gulf Cooperation

Council (GCC) states have

been forced to cut expendi-

ture in their moset recent

Asked about reports that

some Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries

(OPEC) producers were ex-

ceeding their quotas, Mr. Attiyah said: "The OPEC

monitoring committee will

meet sbortly and prepare a

Mr. Attiyah described as

"disastrous" any increase in output by non-OPEC pro-

ducer Norway. Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE

and Kuwait were among the

OPEC members which de-

cided last November to keep

the production ceiline at

until the end of 1995. Oman

and Bahrain are not OPEC

When asked if OPEC's

final report on that."

budgets, blaming weak oil

The market condition is

prices were too low.

The draft privatisation law acknowledges these fears, saying one obstacle to going

already ended most subsidies except for those on very basic commodities, like flour, and inflation has undermined living standards of most of the

million people.

The diplomat commented that while state finances might have been taken in hand, price rises were "very, very dangerous. There's a joke doing the rounds — that everything goes up except the SMIC (Algeria's minimum wage, around 4,000 dinars—less than \$100— a month)."

Prime Minister Mokdad and 15 per cent.

The government has promised maximum consultation to try to swing trade unions behind what it says will be gradual changes, but has also vowed there can be no turn-

President Liam Zeroual, battling violence authorities blame on Mus fundamentalists and wave sabotage he said cost country \$1 billion in 19 with even more attacks 1994, took time recently underline this.

eat A review of economic news from the Arabic press

CBJ gives banks more freedom

usiness

aily

The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has cancelled a reiting on bank credits imposed since 1992. Under that pased since 1992 were not ceiling banks were not allowed to extend credits allowed to extend credits beyond 90 per cent of total deposits. The CBJ will now reson to indirect management of monetary policy such mentor monetary poucy such as influencing interest rate movements (Al Aswaq).

gr Salem Al Lawzi. director general of the Agri-cultural Marketing Organisin said the concept of open public markets for produce was a pioneering idea hut it has not been implemented in ascientific way until now. He explained that the land assigned for the scheme was not adequate and that the authorities were too hasty in amouncing the plan. Dr. Lawzi said the idea will surely secred when farmers are convinced that prices for their produce are low at central markets and There can fetch letter prices at the open pub-ic markets (Al Aswaq).

the Ministry of Supply has fixed the price of Dunhill light cigarettes at JD 1.100 per pack (Al Ra'i).

at Favez Khasawneh, president of the Aqaba Regional Authority, estimated the totmuistic facilities to be set up a Aqaba at JD 500 million. le expected there would be more than 2.500 additional lotel rooms to increase the capacity (Al Dustour).

According to Abdullah Winvyat, head of the Society of Investors at the Sahab dismal City, investment at te city amount to \$1 billion.
Ty are 52 foreign investors various industires at the ly, which accounts for 40 er cent of Jordan's exports, cluding minerals. Mr. Virayyat said that 325 comies have their plants in the 800-dunum city. Mr. Virayyat said the city's main noblems are the water shor-

one services (Al Dustour).

The Ministry of Trans-on is expected to invite bids oon to carry out six vital rojects at Agaba port at an nated cost of JD 63 milion. The ministry will expand the port's wharves at an pproximate cost of JD 55 lion to raise the capacity of the container wharf as well the wharves for passengers and services. The ministry will build a 45-kilometre build a 4.5-kilometre oad between the main wharf and the container wharf at a ost of JD 4 million, pave new yards, including free cone yards, at a cost of JD 2 lion to raise storing capacand open and pave a -kilometre road for trucks om the port to the southern wharves at a cost of JD 2 million (Al Ra'i).

The government will Oon issue a decision to halt out JD 1 million in subidies to tobacco farmers larting the coming season. The decision falls in line with e government policy to prode subsidies only to lifategic products and comes a time when farmers are eeding the 29,000 dunums rea allowed for planting obacco. Plants manufacturng cigarettes have large ocks of tobacco in their lores (Al Dustour).

ate from Al Hasa and Al biad mines in 1994. Volume ansported from Al Hasa The amounted to 1,880,078 onnes while the volume ansported from Al Abiad mine amounted to 660,075 onnes. An average of seven ate every day. According the corporation's directorneral it will cost about 050 million to connect the hidiyyeh mine to the railway etwork (Al Ra'i).

ia's foreign debt. Officials from Algeria's terprises, with a special prepanies dominate the Algerian ference for selling shares," the radio said. It also pointed ahead is "the lack of undercentral and private banks and economy and an early standing which may manifest six foreign banks are bolding attempt to assess their econoparallel negotiations on resitself among the people." out three major obstacles to mic health showed that well The country is seeking cheduling private debt, estithe changes - lack of capital, The authorities have

over half of those scrutnised

were technically bankrupt.

tion as the "partial or total

agement control of public en-

Oil and gas, which provide over 95 per cent of Algeria's foreign income — around \$8 billion-plus forecast this year - will remain subject to majority state control, although increasing numbers of foreign firms have been invited to explore for re-

with their efforts to win fi-

Sifi said in January that inflation last year was "only 28.5 per cent" after a standby IMF agreement last May, instead of the 45 per cent forecast. He said that by the end of 1995 it would be between 10

study showed. In 1992, oil provided 75.7

per cent of their income of

around \$92.2 billion while it

contributed 54 per cent in 1988, when their revenues

stood at nearly \$68 billion.

in 1988 was due to the col-

lapse of oil prices to nearly

\$10 dne to a large market glut

caused by a production war

Fund gave no breakdown but official Gulf figures show oil

accounted for more than 80

per cent of the income of the GCC states.

around 13 million barrels per

day, constituting nearly one

fifth of the world's total crude

supplies. Their oil reserves

also form around 45 per cent

Hurt by sharp fluctuations

conditions if you are wise today.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY FEBRUARY 20, 1995

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Try to smooth members of your family who are upset. You can bring harmony to formerly chaotic

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Get into the philosophical studies

now that can bring way. Avoid doing anything difficult and conserve

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) 100 m. prosperous as you

would like to be so plan today how to become more affluent in the future. Listen to what business experts have to suggest.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Avoid that person of little

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Don't give in to that temptation or

break promises to others or you will get in trouble today. Do not lose your temper with others either. Be objective in your outlook.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Listen carefully to what

an old flame is saying to you today or may get the wrong impression altogether. Be wise and keep out of trouble.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A good day to get much

work done around the house. Please see your relatives at home. Today is not a good day for dashing around aimlessly.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You go out for some recreation

but be careful you do not go beyond your budget. Do some work on that hobby, however be precise to get the best results.

Birthstone of February: Amethysi - Onyx

THE Daily Crossword by Diane C. Baldwin

long time. Keep the social whirl on a practical basis.

in oil prices, they have laun-

of the world's.

The six members produce

The Abn Dbabi-based

among key exporters.

Experts said the low level

Arab oil producers still reliant on crude exports

He told a cabinet meeting

"The economic enterprismust be autonomous... from to conclude contracts, flow shares and fix prices in jet tion to the market. On the other side, it most acceptant the rules of the market which could lead to bank ruptey."

drive to diversify their econo-

mies. But most of the indus-

tries are light products as they lack technology for

beavy industry.

The AMF study showed customs tariffs, corporate taxes and other duties

accounted for 18.6 per cent of

the income of those nine pro-

ducers in 1993. Around four

per cent came from invest-

meet and the rest from other

In contrast, taxes emerged

as the main source of income.

of the remaining Arabia

League members, according:

to the study. They provided

58.4 per cent of the national

income in 1993 while 24.1 per cent came from non-tax

Other sources included 5.6

per cent from aid, 4.8 per cent from investment and 7.2

per cent from oil exports.

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THIRD ANNUAL AMERICAN COMPUTER SHOW







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award various prizes daily



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NEW SPRING

SERVICE LAT

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THE TOTAL RIGHT

NO.

GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

ARAMEX







مجهومة طنطش لمطم البحلوماك فرضة انطحة الماميات والقصالات منام للابطية الينهاملة بلرا إانطبث المعلومات والاتحازات الخرجط الحربية للابطبث البحلية مؤمسة شاعس للماسوب شرصت للمحماني المنبث للشهيبوتر الارص لتثلبث الحميوتر

الشرحية الارمنية لليملومان الإفاسامين مؤممة اللونس فلحميون والاحجرونوال

SHE STEPPED OUT OF

THE CUSTODIAN ..

THE ROOM, SIR .. THAT'S



The show will be open to the public on

Participating companies & The Philadelphia Horel will



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مترست مويدو دجار دره المدررة وي المؤصمة المدبلة للقطم وتعارة الخمهورنر

members. الوطابة الإنخلية الإلماروتية output ceiling should be lo wered to support prices, Mr. Attiyah said: "I don't think so... the market is subject to ضرشتة اللوارم للعليبة والعايية مختب العنممة والكوروار

بأيتحالشرق الاوميط مريحة الضواق

overproduction from both عوهاهولا OPEC and non-OPEC producers. الترصيبة للنجامةإنم of increases especially from countries outside of OPEC," فرهمةالمحلمة النسارية غرهبة التغنية للبلججة

> Mr. Quwaiz said the six ministers were deciding on a unified approach to the Euro-

Oil market unsatisfactory's osed to tax imported energy products. The GCC fears such taxes will lower demand

and hit GCC oil revenues. The GCC group has been locked for years in talks with the European Union to forge a free trade accord which would open markets to cheap petrochemical products from the Gulf. The oil ministers also dis-

cussed producing lead-free gasoline by the year 1997 and they are studying a regional gas network, be said.

Meanwhile, an official

study said that Arab oilproducing states are still heavily reliant on crude exports despite a campaign to diversify their economies and avert sharp fluctuations in earnings.

Oil accounted for 73.8 per cent of the total 1993 earnings of the GCC and the other key Arab crude exportes, Libya, Iraq and Algeria, according to the study by the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF).

The earnings stood at \$86.1 billion, nearly 71 per cent of the total revenues of the 22member Arab League, the

Israel's external. debt rises to \$19.4b

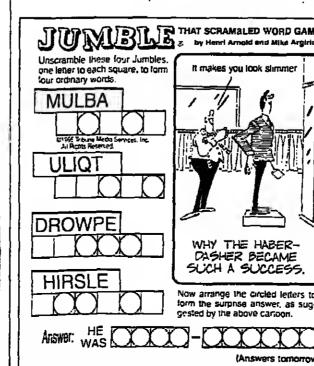
TEL AVIV (AP) - Israel's net external debt was \$19.4 billion at the end of 1994, an increase of some five per cent

Muchs of the increase resulted from \$2.3 billion in U.S.-guaranteed loans taken last year, the Bank of Israel statement said. Since \$10 billion in loan guarantees were approved in 1992, a total of \$4.3 billion has been used up.

Another \$1 billion were raised last year through issuance of Israel bronds, the

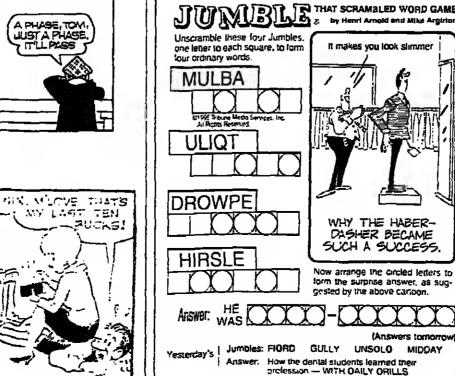


neck, Stanley. I feel much better now!"



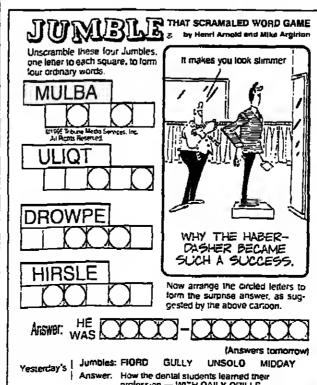
pean Union, which has propstatement said.

You rubbed all of the tension out of my



supply and demand." GCC assistant secretary for VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be careful you do not criticise good friends or make radical changes today. Stick to the tried and true. Some personal is required to gain your finest aims. economic affairs, Abdullah Al Quwaiz, told reporters in the past year, the central bank said Sunday. that there were indications of LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) The right ome to get financial affairs so organised that the future is brighter and happier. Get rid of that tension you have had for some time. Try to relax this evening. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have to study new ideas more carefully if they are to work out successfully for you so do There are still indications not rush things now. Show that you are not a fool. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 10 December 21) Be sure you carry Mr. Quwaiz said. He did not through with promises made today. Be poised, calm and natural with others. Don't permit a loved one to do what you do not approve of name them. or vice versa.

THE BETTER HALF



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The Aqaba Railway orporation transported tonnes of phos-

CBJ gives banks more freedom

** The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) bas cancelled a ceiling on bank credits imposed since 1992. Under that ceiling banks were not allowed to extend credits beyond 90 per cent of total deposits. The CBJ will now resort to indirect management of monetary policy such as influencing interest rate movements (Al Aswaq).

☆☆ Salem Al Lawzi. director-general of the Agri-cultural Marketing Organistion, said the concept of open public markets for produce was a pioneering idea but it has not been implemented in a scientific way until now. He explained that the land assigned for the scheme was not adequate and that the authorities were too hasty in announcing the plan. Dr. Lawzi said the idea will surely succeed when farmers are convinced that prices for their produce are low at central markets and There can fetch letter prices at the open pub-lie markets (Al Aswaq).

* The Ministry of Snpply bas fixed the price of Dunhill light cigarettes at JD 1.100 per pack (Al Ra'i).

* Fayez Khasawneh, president of the Aqaba Regional Anthority, estimated the total cost of botels and other touristic facibties to be set up in Agaba at JD 500 million. He expected there would be more than 2,500 additional hotel rooms to increase the capacity (Al Dustour).

According to Abdullah Wirayyat, bead of the Society of Investors at the Sahab Industrial City, investment at the city amount to \$1 billion. they are 52 foreign investors in various industires at the city, which accounts for 40 per cent of Jordan's exports, including minerals. Mr. Wirayyat said that 325 companies bave their plants in the 2,800-dnnum city. Mr. Wirayyat said the city's main problems are the water shor-tage and the difficult telephone services (Al Dustour).

☆☆ The Ministry of Transport is expected to invite bids soon to carry out six vital projects at Aqaba port at an estimated cost of JD 63 million. The ministry will expand the port's wharves at an approximate cost of JD 55 million to raise the capacity of the container wharf as well as the wharves for passengers and services. The ministry will build a 4.5-kilometre road between the main wharf and the container wharf at a cost of JD 4 million, pave new yards, including free zone yards, at a cost of JD 2 million to raise storing capacity and open and pave a 5 kilometre road for trucks from the port to the southern wharves at a cost of JD 2 million (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ The government will soon issue a decision to halt about JD 1 million in subsidies to tobacco farmers starting the coming season. The decision falls in line with the government policy to provide subsidies only to strategic products and comes at 8 time when farmers are exceeding the 29,000 dunums area allowed for planting tobacco. Plants manufacturing cigarettes have large stocks of tobacco in their stores (Al Dustour).

xx The Aqaba Railway Corporation transported 2.540,103 tonnes of phosphate from Al Hasa and Al Abiad mines in 1994. Volume transported from Al Hasa mine amounted to 1,880,078 tonnes while the volume transported from Al Abiad mine amounted to 660.075 tonnes. An average of seven trains transported the phosphate every day. According to the corporation's director-general it will cost about D50 million to connect the hidiyyeh mine to the railway etwork (Al Ra'i).

Dubai expects boom from M.E. peace

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — The Gulf emirate of Dubai expects peace in the Middle East to trigger an investment influx into its free trade zone of Jebel Ali, the zone's chairman said in an interview published Sunday.

Sultan Ibn Sulayem said the zone, 40 kilometres south of Dubai city, had already attracted nearly 750 companies from Japan, India and more than \$1 billion.

"The number of companies will increase to 2,000 at the end of this century. The zone is already close to achieving its initial target of attracting 1.000 companies with the advent of peace in the region, be told Al Ittihad daily. "The zone will attract more investment as overseas funds are expected to return him following the establishment of

Dubai, the second biggest oil producer in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), invested nearly \$2.5 billion in setting up the free trade zone in 1985 and its Jebel Ali port, the biggest man-made har-

But most of its companies have invested in marketing, distribution and other commercial activities, taking advantage of the emirate's modern port facilities and its location in the heart of a region of more than one billion consumers.

The zone is currently receiving an average 10 to 15 companies a month but what is surprising is that most local and foreign investors are chosing Jebel Ali for investing in distribution or small industries," Mr.Sulayem

He urged investors to set up petrochemical industriess in the zone to tap the large gas resources of nearby Shariah emirate.

Meanwhile a major new investment company being set up by private investors and the Dubai government is expected to revive the dor-mant primary share market in the United Arab Emirates. economists and brokers said

Dubai Investment Company's 1.3 billion dirhams (\$355 million) capital will be raised by public share offering, making it the largest joint stock investment company in the UAE, they said. Of the remaining 45 per

cent, the Dubai government

ARAB SANK PIC JORDAN SATIONAL SANK / NEW JORDAN MATIONAL SANK / NEW

BANK OF JORDAN
HUDGLE BAST INVESTMENT BANK
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK
THE BOUSING BANK
JORDAN RUMAIT BANK
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK

BANKS . SECTOR

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JORDAN BIMER MINERAL ARAH INTERNATIONAL HOTELS

JORDAS INVESTMENT & FLEARCE BARK AMPAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAE PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK.

INABRANCE SECTOR

JORDAN MATIONAL SHIPPING LINES UNITED HUDDLE BAST & COMMODORE BOTELS

JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER /HEW

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JORDAN ROCCHOOL DEDUSTRIES
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INTERMEDIATE PATRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

THE JUNDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING

Fifty-five per cent of the

will hold about 13 per cent, the biggest individual shareholding. Other main founders include five Dubai-based banks, they added.

Investors will pay about 50 per cent of the authorised capital at this stage, the ba-lance to be paid-up in five years, brokers said.

Brokers expect the first share offering of 650 million dirhams (\$178 million) in March. It will be the largest issue in the primary market in the United Arab Emirates since 1995.

The share offering is ex-

pected to give the local stock market a boost by absorbing some of the excess local li-The UAE has an unofficial stock market in which shares

are traded by telephone

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British businessmen bask in Iraqi hospitality

BAGHDAD (R) — British industrialists are being showered with bospitality on their current Baghdad visit, and a spokesman for the group said the businessmen were seeing a vast potential market ahead for Britain.

"We have been received incredibly well," Edmund Sykes, coordinator of the commercial lobby group, the Iraqi British Interests Group,

told Reuters.
"We have bad fantastic meetings. There is vast potential for us now and in the future," Mr. Sykes said.

The 25 businessmen arrived in Baghdad Friday to explore ways to resume some form of business with fraq

PREV. CLOSING CLOSING PRICE

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INDEX NUMBER: 160.96

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PRICE

imposed on Baghdad following its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The official English lan-guage daily, the Baghdad Observer, published an open letter to the businessmen, welcoming their visit and beaping praise on "their

Sources close to the group said the businessmen would try to exert pressure on their government to soften its stand on Iraq sanctions at the U.N. Security Council.

The businessmen were holding discussions with offi-cials of Iraq's central bank and the ministries of irrigation, health, agriculture, in-dustry, oil, transport and communications, interior and foreign affairs.

The group includes a representative from the firm De La Rue, which prints bank notes. Iraq says notes worth millions of dinars were printed in Britain before the 1990 Gulf war but were now locked away in London as a

Leyland Trucks is also represented and other sectors covered by the delegation include engineering, construc-

tion and pharmaceuticals. The businessmen are reluctant to be identified because of possible adverse publicity in Britain.

On the other hand British firms are worried about losing business to other countries whose governments may be less strict about enforcing sanctions.

Representatives from Amersham International had meetings with Iraq's health officials. Iraq used to import most of its medical supplies from Britain, one source said, adding that Britain should not lose the market to

Meetings are also taking place at the ministries of oil and industry and a source siad British companies were seeking to sell equipment to the Iraqi oil industry once sanctions were eased or

Suez Canal revenues fall slightly in 1994

ISMAILIYA, Egypt (AFP) — Revenues from Egypt's Suez Canal dropped from 1.98 billion dollars in 1993 to \$1.90 billion last year, a spokesman for the canal authority, Hassan Rifaat, said Saturday. The drop came even though Egyptian authorities dredged the canal last year to allow ships of heavier tonnage to sail through the waterway rather than around the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa. The head of the canal authority, Mohammad Ezzat Adel, said in November on the 125th anniversary of the canal's construction that fees for using the canal would not be increased in 1995. Mr. Adel said he expected revenues to fall because of inflation in the international shipping

Salomon Brothers closes division for rich individual investors

NEW YORK (AFP) - Financial firm Salomon Brothers has said it was closing its private investment department, which catered to wealthy individual investors. "We are discontinuing our private investment business in order to concentrate our resources on our core advisory, underwriting and trading business," said Salomon Brothers chairman and chief executive officer Deryck Maughan. The private investment department will close in April. The two beads of department, Bill Heyman and Rich Sachs will be given other jobs with Salomon Brothers, but the firm gave no indication of what would become of the rest of the division's 115 employees. Spokesman Robert Baker said "we have two months until April to decide on a case by case basis." Salomon Inc. Salomon Brothers' parent company, made a loss of \$364 million in 1994, its first since the company was quoted on the stock exchange in 1981. The results reflected a fall in bond broking operations, but also accounting problems such as an unresolved difference between the London office and the New York headquar-ters over an item totalling \$140 million. Salomon Inc. has said it would tighten control of Salomon Brdther's employees and could cut commission rates if the performance did not improve.

PLACE

Jordan Times **Financial** Cairo Amman Bank

Foreign Exchange Market Summary (February 13-February 17, 1995)

AMMAN - The dollar retreated sharply against other major currencies at the end of last week, as it ended the week 2.57 per cent lower against the mark, 1.64 per cent lower against the yen and 1.22 per cent lower against

The U.S. unit fluctuated in a narrow range against other major currencies Monday. This bappened while market participants awaited the release of the U.S. January retail sales and consumer prices later in the week. Their expectations pointed to a probable decline in bond prices and the dollar, if these reports showed strong results upon

their release, reinforcing fears of inflationary pressures.

The dollar started its decline against the mark as of Tuesday, influenced by renewed fears of inflationary pressures. These fears were sparked by the release of a Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta January survey of manufacturing prices, showing a sharp rise in the price paid and price received components, and giving new evidence of building inflationary pressures in the manufacturing sector. The release of U.S. retail sales, showing a modest rise of 0.2 per cent in January, propped up the bond market. The U.S. unit rose slightly against the mark and sterling

Wednesday, while retreating marginally against the yen. Reports indicated that the dollar rose during early trading hours, influenced by a rise in U.S. stock and bond prices. However, it fell later in view of another decline in the Mexican currency and concerns over the credit worthiness of some major Mexican companies. The release of the U.S. consumer price index showing a modest gain of 0.3 per cent in January did not dispel inflationary fears.

The dollar declined sharply against other major currencies Thursday, influenced by yet another substantial decline in the Mexican currency. Reports indicated that the Mexican Peso fell by 40 per cent since its devaluation on Dec. 20, 1994. The dollar also retreated on news that the U.S. led bailout of Mexican economy, might be delayed.

The U.S. unit continued its retreat against other major currencies Friday, in view of continued concern over the Mexican currency's decline. The dollar rose during early trading bours, affected by the release of the U.S. balance of \$7.34 billion in December, from \$10.04 billion the previous month. However, expectations that the Mexican currency's retreat will reduce U.S. exports to Mexico stemmed the

The U.S. unit, thus ended the week at 1.4810 marks, 97.30 yen and at \$1.5825 to sterling.

Систенсу	10/2/95 Close	17/2/95 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.5635	1.5825	1.228
Deutsche Mark	1.5190	1.4810	2.57\$
Swiss Franc	1.2823	1,2525	2.383
French Franc	5.2585	5.1540	2.035
Јарапске Усп	98.90	97.30	1.048

Euro-Currency	laterest	Rates	*
			14/

	10/2/1995		17/2/1995	
Carretty	J-Manch (Sed	1-Year (%)	-Month "c)	1-Year (%)
U.S. Dollar	5.43	6.93	5.40	6.87
Sterling Pound	6.56	7.69	6.44	7.68
Destsche Mark	4.81	5.56	4.75	5.58
Swiss Franc	3.50	4.31	3.50	4.38
French Franc	5.33	6.31	5.43	6.58
Japanese Yen	. 2.18	2.43	2.18	€-37

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6950	0.6970
Sterling Pound	1.0990	1,1045
Deutsche Mark	G. 4684	0.4707
Swiss Franc	0.5541	G. 5575
Fresch Franc	0.1347	G. 1354
Јарапеке Үел	0.7139	0.7175
Dutch Guilder	0.4179	0.4200
Swedish Krona	*****	****
Italian Lira*	0.043Z	0.0634
Belgian Franc	****	*****

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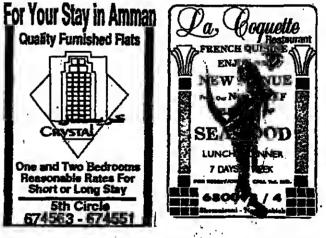
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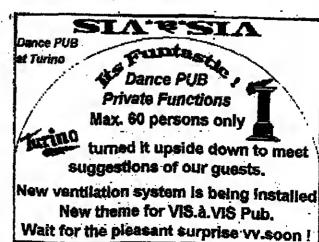
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FURANO, Japan (AP) — For the first seven slalom races of the season, nobody could beat Alberto Tomba. In the eighth, it was a treacherous course setting that disarmed Tomba, "La

Bomba," the Italian skier maintains. After a mistake up high, he skied off the course shortly before the finish in the first run of a World Cup race Sunday.
Michael Tritscher came

from behind on the second run for his first World Cup victory in four years, and Austrian compatriot Mario Reiter shot into second place. While Tomba's winning streak ended, he also con-

nnued a losing streak — he never has won in Japan in his decade as a World Cup racer. He gets another try Monday, in a giant slalom that was called off because of gusting winds on Saturday after Tomba had slipped into sixth place among the 23 who

was decided. An exuberant Tritscher, 29, said he had been having trouble putting two good runs

skied before the cancellation

together.
The victory, he said, "would be even hetter if Tomba bad finished the race. "Maybe next time," he added. "Why not?"

Tritscher and many others agreed with Tomba that the first-run course, set hy German coach Sepp Hanser, challenged the skiers with extremely difficult turns.

Four of the first six skiers, including Tomba, didn't finish. In all, 16 of the 63 starters went out on the first run, and another three were disqualified.

But Tomba described the setting as "a course designed to defeat Tomba." It was impossible to get any rhythm, be said.

"After IO races, they are able to defeat Tomba in the slalom with the course setting," he grumbled. Before Sunday, he had I0 victories in 12 races, with a 7-for-7 record in slaloms plus three giant slalom triumphs Tomba still holds a big lead

in the overall World Cup standings, with 1,050 points. Jure Kosir of Slovenia, fastest in the first run and boping for 100 points for a vic-

SARASOTA, Florida (R)

the higgest attraction at baseball's spring training

this year, said Saturday he

will step aside if he caught

in the middle of the play-

"I'm not a replacement player," he insisted.

'That's not what I'm bere

Jordan, who rented from

the NBA's Chicago Bulls in 1993, played last year for

the Birmingham Barons in

the White Sox's minor

league system and is ex-pected to be promoted to

the Triple-A Nashville

As such, Jordan is not

considered a strikebreaking

replacement player. The Major League players'

Association has said, however, that anyone who

plays in an exhibition game

where admission is charged

will be considered a

Under normal circum-

stances, spring training ex-hibition games where

admission is charged fea-

ture Major League players

and players hoping to make major league rosters. "I don't want to put my-self in the middle of this,"

Jordan said following a

light workout at the Chicago

White Sox camp here

Saturday. "If somehow I'm

caught in the middle, I'm

not a pleased person and

I'll have to re-evaluate my

point in this strike situation

where you're worrying ab-

out me instead of settling

the strike, I'd rather step

aside and see if you can

solve the situation and then

But Jordan prefers not to

have to make such a tough

decision. He said he hoped

the strike, which started

August 12, would be set-

tled quickly so he can get

his mind back on pursuing

his dream of getting to the

Major Leagues through de-

Jordan did not have to

report for camp until next

week, but he showed up

early, hoping to get in some

extra work on his hitting

it takes now (to be a base-ball player)." he said, adding: "I'm starting to be-

I'm more aware of what

and fielding skills.

dication and hard work.

I'll come back."

"If I become such a focal

situation."

strikebreaker.

franchise this year.

Former basketball star



Sweden's King Carl Gustav (2nd right) and Crown Princess Victoria (right) appland the winner of the women's World Cnp giant slalom event, Austrian Anita Wachter (left). before the podium ceremony Saturday. Wachter won the

tory, slipped back into fourth place and gained only 50. boosting his total to 620

Five-time World Cup champion Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg stood third with 603 after picking up 40 points for a sixth-place finish.

But Girardelli and other all-rounders still have II races this season. Tomba, who skips the downhill and super giant slalom events, has only three. Kosir, another slalom specialist, said he might enter the remaining speed races to try to pick up points. Tritscher, who had one

second and two third places earlier in the season, went into Sunday's second run .15 second behind Kosir. But then he skied a 51.78 to Kosir's 52.98. Tritscher finished with a total time of I minute, 47.94

the second run in 51.41, had a I:48.66 total. Norway's Ole Christian

seconds. Reiter, fastest on

Furuseth was third in 1;48.83 and Kosir fourth in 1:48-99. On the second run, Trits-

cher said, "I tried to attack, but I was careful too because the visibility was not so good. It was a tough racing day. He said he felt his second run had been too stiff, "but it was OK.

Reiter said, "This is exactly what we racers needed most, to break the Tomba streak. Everybody was only talking about Tomba."

Having other names on the

victory podium is "very important, although Tomba brings much good to the world of skiing," he added, Tritscher dedicated his victory to Sweden's Thomas Fogdoe, whose career was ended by a skiing accident Feh. 7. Fogdoe had stood fourth in the World Cup slalom standings.

At a news conference, he said he spoke on behalf of all the slalom racers in describing Fogdoe's absence as a

Jordan says he will step aside if needed

statom in 2 minutes, 1.87 seconds for the two runs, ahead of Swiss Vreni Schneider and third-placed Deborah Compagpopi (AFP photo)

Kosir said, "I couldn't ski my own technique because right after every gate there was a big hole left by the skis of earlier racers. He had started third in the first run but 15th in the second.

"I wanted to take a shorter line but I couldn't," he added. Tomba. speaking through an interpreter, said, "I am

tired. I don't understand why l am tired. Perhaps it's psychological" from the

"Perhaps I need a holidisqualified.

> World Cup men's standings Overall (after 23 races)

in 1:55.67.

Jure Kosir. Slovenia, 620. 3. Marc Giradelli, Luxembourg, 603. Gnenther Mader, Austria, 520. Kjetil Andre Aamodt, Norway, 509.

I. Alberto Tomba, Italy, 1,050 points.

Michael Tritscher, Austria, 477. Michael Von Gruenigen, Switzerland, 476. Luc Alphand, France, 469.

10. Mario Reiter, Austria, 415.

Harald Strand-Nilsen, Norway, 437.

De La Hoya

defends

Matt Grosjean of Los Angeles was the only Amer-

ican finisher. He placed 26th

Grosjean said he had been

stricken with the flu on Satur-

day, and he had wanted to ski

aggressively Sunday, "but I

naan, Conn., and Erik Schlopy of Park City, Utah,

did not finish the first run.

and Paul Casey Puckett of

Crested Butte, Colo., was

Chip Knight of New Ca-

didn't have the energy.'

WBO crown LAS VEGAS (AP) — A frustrated Oscar De La Hoya brawled and wrestled with John Molina for 12

fore emerging with his 17th

straight pro win and his WBO lightweight crown in-De La Hoya, in the toughest fight of his young pro career, knocked Molina down in the first round.

then found himself in a brawl before winning a unanimous I2-round decision over the IBF junior lightweight champion.

It was the first loss in five years and 15 fights for the Puerio Rican challenger. But in the end it was a learcut decision for De La Hoya, who spent much of the later rounds in clinches with the onrushing Molina,

complaining ro referee Mills Lane about the challenger's tactics. Judges Jerry Roth and John Rupert had De La Hoya ahead 116-111, while Chick Giampa had it 117-IIO. The Associated Press

had De La Hoya shead

and the rest of the nime

117-IIO. The bout topped a card which De La Hoya's 1992 Olympic teammate. Montell Griffin, upset James Toney in a majority decision in a light heavyweight fight.

rounds Saturday night be-



German Mark Warnecke jubilates after breaking the 50m breaststroke world re-

Kennedy snaps 14-year swim record meter freestyle with a time of 47.2I seconds, while Franzis-ka Van Almsick swept both

GELSENKIRCHEN, Germany (AP) — Angela Kennedy of Australia broke one of swimming's oldest world records—the 100-metre hut-terfly mark held by Mary T. Meagher—to highlight the first day Saturday of the short-course world cup. Kennedy swamped the

competition by almost a full second in breaking the American swimmer's 14-year-old mark. She touched the wall in 58.77 seconds race to eclipse Meagher's 58.91 set in January of 1981. A pair of world records

and five year's best times were recorded Saturday at the Arena festival, the last of seven short-course World Cups held this year.

Germany's Mark Warnecke swam the 50-metrebreaststroke in 27.00 seconds to shatter the mark held by Dmitri Volkov by 15hundredths of a second. Volkov was swimming for the Soviet Union when he set the mark five years ago.

"I'm the best sprinter in the world at the moment, the sports student crowed and thrust his fist at the crowd after winning. Warnecke, 25, had not

been among swimming's elite until he underwent a serious shoulder operation after a motorcycle crash last year. While lying in the hospital, he vowed to take swimming more seriously when he resumed training last October. "I told myself either I really try - or I quit. No more

balfway," he said. Two of the biggest stars at the event also won their events by swimming a year's

Olympic and world champion Alexander Popov of Russia dominated the 100-

longer distance. Afterwards she expressed relief at her year's best times.
"It's hardly that easy to

tyle races.

swim well in front of a home public," Van Almsick said. Olympie champion Krisztina Egersegi of Hungary bettered the 200-metrebackstroke European record to 2:06.98 minutes. She improved the mark beld by Italy's Lorenza Vigarani by 32hundredths of a second.

the 50- and 100-metre frees

The German teenager

posted 25.03 in the 50-metres and 1:55.91 minutes in the

Kennedy established herself as the favorite to win the Opel car given for the best performance after her dazzling time in the butterfly

Michael Jordan works on his swing during the Chicago White Sox training camp (AFP photo) whole outlook." he said. "I

lieve in myself.' Jordan took batting prac-

tice with the catchers on Saturday and, after some early jitters and a lot of ground halls, he began hitting line drives. He even smacked a home run over the 340-foot mark in left field, to the delight of several fans watching

"Physically, I'm building myself up to where I can swing the hat more aggressively, he said. "Last year I was just trying to make contact, but that may have been a mistake."

Jordan batted just .202 for Birmingham and hit

three home runs - hardly Major League material but the White Sox apparently are pleased with his prog-

ress. "He looked fine," said Chicago general manager Ron Schuler. "He's using his legs better and should hit a lot more home runs. I see a lot of improvement.

Jordan admitted. though, that 1995 is his "make-or-break" year. He said he would be content to remain in the minor leagues only if he continues to make progress, adding that he nearly gave up at one point last year.

"I had to change my

battle with myself to accept that in baseball the success rate is three out of ten." Jordan added: "You have to actually go through it before you believe it. It was tough for me to accept

was trying to be seven out

of ten and it was a real

such a high failute rate." The real success for Jordan is that he is still in professional baseball one vear after many-sayers said he would wash out in his

"Those people didn't know me as a person. jordan responded.

GOREN BRIDGE

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Both vulnerable. West deals. NORTH * KQ 10 6

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EAST

SOUTH

North East Dhl Pass 3 NT Pass Opening lead: Three of ...

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The suction was routine. With a model strength in course.

good stopper in opener's suit, no four-card major and reasonable val-ues, two no trump was a textbook onse to the takeout double and North had an easy raise to game.

West led a low heart and declarer fell for the lure of a cheap trick. The five was played from dummy and declarer's ten won. West shot up with the ace on the first diamond lead, cashed the ace of hearts to fell the king, then forced out the queen of hearts. When West regained the lead with the ace of spades, two more heart tricks proved to be

A little more thought before play-ing to the first I rick might have pointed the way to the winning line. West is marked with the three miss-

ing acus for the opening hid, so there is outhing to gain by allowing the opening lead to ruo round to the tan.

There's no way for East to obtain.

Instead, declarer should rise with the board's king of hearts and force out the ace of diamonds. West cannot profitably continue with a heart and no shift is any better. Declared and no shift is any better. can win any return and drive out the see of spades. The best the defenders can do is for West to score his three aces and the no-trump than comes home with an example?

Sports

U.S. President Bill Clinton (left) accepts a basketball from Houston Rockets' Hakeem Olajuwon at the White House on Saturday (AFP photo)

Alamodome crowd of 33,072. the sixth time this season San Antonio has attracted more than 30,000.

Stockton

10,000th

EAST RUTHERFORD.

New Jersey (AP) — Chris Mills scored 23 points and

Cleveland limited New Jersey to 25 second-half points as

the Cavaliers, the NBA's best

defensive team, won the

game by holding the Nets

scoreless for 4:33 down the

stretch, wiping out a 72-71 deficit. The 25 second-half

points and seven third-

quarter points both matched

franchise record-lows for the

tive season, reached the

milestone with 3:41 left in the

second quarter when he pas-sed to Karl Malone for a

layup. Stockton broke Magic Johnson's NBA record of

9,921 on Feb. 1, also on a

Adam Keefe, who scored

only five points, got all of them in the final 2:04 of the

game to lift the Jazz to vic-

Spurs 111, Hawks 97: In

San Antonio, Vinny Del

Negro scored a career-high

31 points, boosting San Anto-

nio to victory over Atlanta,

snapping the Hawks' four-

David Robinson had 24

points and 14 rebounds for

the Spurs despite sitting out

the fourth quarter, and Sean

Elliott scored 16 points for

San Antonio, which claimed

its 10th victory in 12 games.

vious career record of 28

points with a 3-pointer shot

with 2:10 left, drawing a standing ovation from the

Del Negro eclipsed his pre-

game winning streak.

pass to Malone.

passes

assist

Bucks 118, Bulls 111: In P.J. Brown gave New Jersey the 1-point lead with a Milwaukee, Vin Baker tied his season high with 27 points 15-foot jumper with 5:01 left, but the Nets didn't score and rookie Glenn Robinson had 26 points and a careeragain until Kenny Ander-son's Jayup with 28 seconds high 17 rebounds for Mil-waukee against Chicago. Eric Murdock added a

Jazz 108, Celtics 98: In Salt season-high 25 points and I0 assists for the Bucks, who Lake City, John Stockton became the first player in NBA beat Chicago for the third history to reach 10,000 assists time this season and won when Utah defeated Boston. tbeir first season-series against the Bulls since the Stockton, who had 15 assists for the game and is on 1985-1986 season. The teams pace to lead the NBA in meet two times. assists for the eighth consecu-

Milwaukee grabbed its hig-geste lead of the game, 99-82, after opening the fourth quarter with a 15-10 run. Baker capped the burst with a basket and three-point Toni Kukoc scored 13 of

his 27 points in the final quarter as the Balls tried to rally, but never got closer than five points. The Bucks made I4 of I8 free throws in the final 2:28

to seal the victory. Robinson was 4-for-4 and Murdock 5for-8 with the game on the Supersonics 129, Warriors

117: In Oakland, California, Detlef Schrempf scored 17 of

Charlotte

Cleveland Philadelphia

Milwankee

Utah

Seattle

San Autonio

his 31 points in a decisive fourth-quarter, leading Seat tle past Golden State. The Sonics have won five straight and 11 of 13 meetings

and 27. Golden State lost its third straight home game. Leading 94-92 early in the fourth-quarter, the Sonics scored nine straight points in a span of 1:10 to take control of the game. Schrempf's put-

back with 9:23 to play gave

against the Warriors, who

have not put together back-

Seattle a 103-92 lead. Latrell Sprewell led Golden State with 30 points, while Time Hardaway had 21. points and added a second straight 19-assist game. Chris-Gatling tied this season high with 26 points and 12 re-

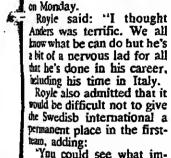
Gary Payton had 29 points and Kendall Gill 22 for the

The Warriors traded forward Tom Gulgiotta, who came to Golden State in the Chris Webber deal, to the Minnesota Timberwolves three hours before the game.

Kings 109, Chippers 92: In Sacramento, Mitch Rich. mond scored 25 points as Sacramento matched last season's win total by defeating Los Angeles.







tam, adding:
"You could see what imneuse ability he has and ace like that you have to ind a palce for him."

Tottenham, aiming for beir third quarter-final place in the last five seasons, grabbed a 21st minute lead against Southampton through German star Jurgen Klinsmann's 20th goal of the sea-

But their joy lasted just a

valched his Premiership stugglers brush aside their his Eng saving: Sweden's Anders Limpar ever surp began the goal-spree with a up with s eventh minute strike and Joe every da Parkinson added his first ever Even goal for the club before half-Francis

was foul

ternation

sier, who

penaliy verted fr

Saints a

Le Ti

suppleme

manager

offer no!

Americ's Moussa Saib (right) due

America With Bordeaux's Jean-

Everton storm

LONDON (Agencies) — Joe Royle's F.A. Cup expertise mbbed off on Everton as

they stormed into the

tic 5-0 victory over Norwich

The Goodison Park mana-

ger, who had a history of

gant killings during his spell with Oldham twice steering

men into the semi-finals.

surprisingly comfortable

After the biggest win of his tenure at Everton, Royle

ingled out Limpar for par-

icular after the Swede scored

his second goal for the Merseysiders following his

excellent strike at West Ham

opponents with ease.

ter-finals with an empha-

œde: :: Paul Rideout. Duncan Feradmire l mson and Graham Stuart Alan has a fopund completed the rout as Everlevel." no, who have won the comeinon four times, cruised to Anoth

decided a tie in Lor son co stoppage wreck fin hopes of at Loftus praised b ters for t potential ing the p

wall's fo against C The ey world ba Wednes scenes i forced th England's tional aga

But th without v said: T thing ab was the f supporter selves to Repub national

goal spa Wednesd

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Auxerre's Moussa Saib (right) duelling Dogan during their French first division for the ball with Bordeaux's Jean-Luc match (AFP photo)

Everton storm into F.A. quarters

LONDON (Agencies) — Joe Royle's F.A. Cup expertise rubbed off on Everton as they stormed ioto the quarter-finals with an emphatic 5-0 victory over Norwich Saturday.

The Goodison Park manager, who had a history of giant killings during his spell with Oldham twice steering them into the semi-finals. watched his Premiership strugglers hrush aside their opponents with ease.

Sweden's Anders Limpar began the goal-spree with a seventh minute strike and Joe Parkinson added his first ever goal for the club before half-

Paul Rideout, Duncan Ferguson and Graham Stuart completed the rout as Everton, who have won the cometition four times, cruised to a sorprisingly comfortable

After the biggest win of his teoure at Everton, Royle singled out Limpar for particular after the Swede scored his second goal for the Merseysiders following his excellent strike at West Ham oo Monday.

Royle said: "I thought Anders was terrific. We all know what he can do but he's a bit of a nervous lad for all that he's done in his career,

including his time in Italy. Royle also admitted that it would be difficult not to give the Swedish international a permanent place in the firstteam, adding:
"You could see what im-

when he turns in a performance like that you have to find a palce for him.

Tottenham, aiming for their third quarter-final place in the last five seasons, grabhed a 21st minute lead against Southampton through German star Jurgen Klinsmann's 20th goal of the sea-

Bot their joy lasted just a

minute before Jeff Kenna was fouled and England international Mathew Le Tissier, who has only missed one penatly in his career, con-. verted from the spot to earn Saints a replay chance at the

against England, was again on target to clinch Wolves'

1-0 victory over struggling

First division Watford se-

cured a club record nine suc-

cessive games without con-

ceding a goal but were unable

to score themselves against

Premiership strugglers Crys-

games, Aston Villa main-

taioed their revival under

Brian Little by beating Shef-

field Wednesday 2-1 at Hill-

Despite a second-half

strike by Mark Bright, two

first-half goals from Welsh striker Dean Sacoders

Former Villa manager Ron

Atkinson, who was replaced by Little in November, en-joyed a victory in his first

game since taking charge at Coventry with goals from

Zimhabwean Peter Ndlovu

and Mike Marsh sending

West Ham into deeper re-

Nantes reach new beights

Patrice Loko scored his 18th

goal of the season as league

leaders Nantes cootinoed

their hrilliant form to beat

Martigues 3-0 at home oo

Loko struck the first of

Nantes's goals io the 24th

minute and played a major

role in another as the club

equalled Paris SG's record of

26 unbeaten matches from

the start of a league season.

all French record for con-

secutive matches without loss

if they win or draw their oext

PSG remained unbeaten

Saturday's wio, in a match

postponed from last week be-

cause of rain, put Nantes 11

points clear of second-placed

Lyon and champions Paris

for 27 matches in the middle

of the 1992-93 season.

Nantes will equal the over-

France's top marksman

legation trouble.

proved to be enough.

In the two Premiership

Leicester.

tal Palace.

sborough.

Le Tissier's penatly was supplemented by several moments of sohlime skill and his manager Alan Ball could offer nothing but praise for his England midfielder. saying: "Nothing he does ever surprises me. He comes up with something wonderful every day."

Even Spurs boss Gerry Francis was forced to concede: "Nobody can fail to admire his skills and since Alan has been in charge he's a fopund a higher consistency

Another dramatic penalty decided the other fifth round tie in London with Clive Wilson converting QPR's stoppage-time spot-kick to wreck first division Millwall's hopes of a quarter-final place at Loftus Road.

QPR manager Ray Wilkins praised both sets of supporters for their behaviour after the match was tipped as a poteotial trouble spot following the problems after Millwall's fourth round replay against Chelsea.

The eyes of the football world have been on English soccer supporters following Wcdoesday's disgraceful scenes in Duhlin, which forced the abandonment of England's friendly interna-

Ireland. Bot the match passed off without violence and Wilkins said: "The most pleasing thing about the afternoon was the fact that both sets of supporters conducted them-

selves to a high standard." Republic of Ireland international David Kelly, whose goal sparked the riots in Wednesday's Dublin friendly

Pierce, Graf in Paris final

Pierce gave disgruotled French sports fans something to cheer Saturday hy sweeping into a title showdown with Steffi Graf at the \$460,000 Indoor Open Gaz de France.

Unhappy French rughy supporters, trooping silently out of the Parc des Princes just a few hundred yards away after Scotland's historic victory in the Five Nations international, were puzzled to hear cheering coming from inside the 4,500-capacity Coubertin Stadium.

The noise was being generated by hundreds of young Mary Pierce fans watching their idol finish off Croatian teenager Iva Majoh 6-3, 6-4 in the second singles semi-final at the \$460,000 event.

The Canadian-born Pierce, who had come so close to being eliminated before recovering in her first match when she trailed Australian qualifier Rennae Stubbs 1-5 in the third set, moved one step away from her first-ever tournament victory in her adopted France.

Majoli, normally so steady from the baseline, could not match the sheer power of the recently crowned Australian Open champion and there was little she could do to prevent the 20-year-old Pierce lining up a sixth career meeting with Graf.

The German, playing her first tournament after a three-month injury lay-off, showed oo discomfort from the back problem she must nurse for the rest of her career and she surged past her old rival Jana Novotna 6-3, 6-2 for her 22nd win in their 25 encounters.

"I was an excellent match, despite that scoreline," said Novotna, adding: "But ev-erything goes so fast when Steffi is on court. You have to try to slow her down. "I think she's just as good

as I have ever seen her." Graf, who revealed earlier this week that she had decided no to operate on a bone-growth in her lower back because it would mean nearly a year out of tennis without any certainty of suc-cess, said: "Obviously I'm extremely happy to be in the final. It makes up for all the bad times recently.

Watched by her parents Peter and Heidi Graf and Swiss coach Heinz Gunthardt, the five-time Wimhledon champion was still not one huodred per cent satis-

fied. "Physically I still need a couple of weeks of good training," she said, "hut obviously I'm really pleased with the way things are going.

Graf has a special score to

her at both the French Open

pionships last year.

"I know what to expect against Mary," she said. Graf will also be particularly motivated oo Sunday since, if she wins in Paris, she will recapture the world number-one ranking from Spain's Arantza Sanchez.

and Virginia Slims Cham-

Saochez took over the number-one spot last week. Pierce, who has been playing doubles with Novotna all week to improve her serve and volley, said: "I've got nothing to prove. I'm just glad Steffi's back.

"I feel fine physically and the crowd support here has been marvellous. I think I can win on Sunday. I can only do my best."

Becker, Kafelnikov in Milan final

Big serving Boxis Becker meets surprise finalist Yevgeny Kafelnikov in the \$680,000 Muratti Time Indoor event here.

Top seed Becker defeated sixth seeded Petr Korda from the Czech Republic 7-6 (7/3), 6-7 (3-7), 6-2, in two hours, 38 minutes, and Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov ousted. second seeded Croatian Goran Ivanisevic 7-5, 6-7 (4-7), 6-4.

Korda said the German's big serve was the winning difference. "Becker served tremendously, that was the key to the match," be said. "I had five hreak point chances in the first set, but I hit the tape or had bad luck on all of

Becker's match win was his 27th in Milan, an event where he has taken the title four times. The victory moves the 27-year-old German one ahead of American John McEnroe, another four-time holder here.

It was McEnroe who handed Becker the first of only two losses at the tournament. beating him in the first round in 1985, Becker's debut here.

Becker won the Marseille stop on the ATP Tour last week, his first tournament since a surprise first-round defeat by Patrick McEnroe at the Australian Open.

The German has oever lost to Korda, and improved his career record to 5-0. The match was a replay of last year's final, which Becker

Kafelnikov, celebrating his 21st birthday Saturday night,

Pierce won 6-3, 6-4, to play German Steffi Graf for the title on Sunday (AFP photo)

French Mary Pierce returns the ball to Crostian Iva Majoli on Feb. 18 during their semi-final match at the Paris Indoor Open.

gave himself the best possible

present with his win over vanisevie. The number five seed, who

capped a fast rise from outside the top 100 to the edge of the top 10 last year, crushed the 23-year-old Croatian's hopes of getting into his first ATP tour final since the Stockholm Open in early November.

Kafelnikov broke into the top 10 on January 30 and showed by his victory at the Forum that he is determined to hang on to his place in the elite group.

The Russian from the Black Sea resort of Sochi reached his last career final the week before the U.S. Open at Long Island, where he defeated Frenchman Cedrie Pioline.

Martin beats Sampras Two match points away from victory Saturday, Pete

Sampras tightened up.
The world's No. 1 player won his first set 6-4 against Todd Martin in the St. Jude Indoor tournament semifinals. But Sampras missed two

matches points and Martin pulled ouit a 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3 victory. Martin will play Paul Haarhuis, who beat unseeded Jonathan Stark 6-4, 7-5 Saturday night, in the finals.

"It's like a bad dream," said Sampras, who said he couldn't remember the last time he lost wheo he had match point. In fact, it happened last May when he didn't convert a match point before losing to Michael Stich in Germany.

Sampras served for the match at 5-4 only to be broke by Martin, his friend and practice partner who's ranked No. 10. The set went to a tiehreaker, and Sampras jumped ahead 5-1.

No matter what he tried, Sampras couldn't put Martin away. Martin pulled out the tiebreaker 8-6 for the second set victory and broke Sam-pras in the first game of the final set before wirming.

"Basically the pressure was oo me, and at that point he had nothing to lose," Sam-pras said. "He missed quite a bit, but he made the right

Agassi-Sampras eye in door showdown

World number one Pete Sampras and fast-charging number two fellow American Andre Agassi could meet for the first time since their Australian Open final bere next Sunday in the U.S. Indoor

The \$714,250 ATP event features 32 players, including world number five Michael Chang and Australians Pat Rafter and Mark Woodforde. But the main attraction is a possible Sampras-Agassi

Sampras, a two-time Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion, lost to Todd Martin in the semi-finals of a tuneup Saturday in Memphis. But he thrives in this city, where he made his pro debut at age 16 and won his first pro title in 1990.

Sampras has faced tough times off the court even as Agassi has challenged him for the top ranking. Sampras friend and coach Tim Gullik- away.

soo has been hospitalised with a brain tumor and golfing buddy Vitas Gerulaitis died of carbon monoxide poisoning last year. In addition, long-time

Sampras girlfriend Delaina Mulcahy was hurt in a car accident "I've always kept a lot of

things inside me on and off the court," Sampras said.

Schultz, Likhovtseva in Oklahoma City final

Top seed Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands and Russian teenager Elena Likhovtseva took drastically different routes into the final of the Iga classic women's tenois tournament Saturday.

Schultz needed just 64 minutes to power her way past eighth-seeded American Patty Fendick 6-2, 6-2.

The ninth-seeded Likhovtseva saved two match point in the third set before upsetting second-seeded Americao Amy Frazier 7-5 2-6 7-5. The 15th-ranked Frazier

appeared to have control of the match after handily winning the second set and jumping out to a 3-0 third-set lead. Frazier maintained her

edge through the eighth game of the deciding set and found herself serving for the match at 5-3. On her first match point,

however, Frazier double faulted to keep the 19-yearold Russian's chances alive. Frazier held another match point in the next game, but

could not put Likhovtseva

÷.,

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heating system. For more details, please call 697952

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command of both written and spoken English, typing skills, experience in the field of hotel reservations would be and one female Receptionist with an excellent command of

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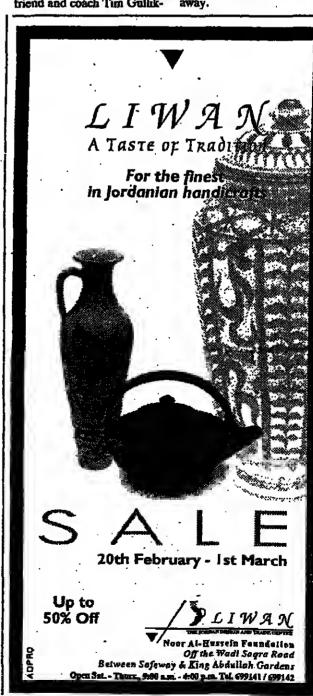
Announces the invitation to tender No.: 15F/95

JPMC announces the invitation to bid No. 15F/95 (for the supply, of (12000) metric tonnes of wet aluminium hydrox-

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, until 1:30 p.m. local time Tuesday 28th, February 1995. Application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of JD (150) for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submitting bids is 12:00 hours local time Wednesday 8th, March 1995.

> Sameh Madani Managing Director



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y. T	Cinema Tel.: 634144 PHILADELPHIA	Cinema Tel.: 699238 PLAZA	Cinema Tel.: 677420 CONCORD	Tel.: 618274 - 618275 AMMOUN THEATRE	Td.: 675571 Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	Nabil & Hisham's Tel.: 625155	
O A T A Y	Yusra, Mahmoud Hamedieh in The Immigrant Shows: 12:30, 3:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	Warriors Shows: 12:30, 2:30, 8:30, 10:30	CONCORD '1' SPECIALIST Shows: 12:30, 8:15 SPEED Shows: 2:45, 10:31 CONCORD '2' ROBOCOP "3"	SUM'A in the satirical play HI CITIZEN Composed and directed by Mohammad Ai Shawagten Daily from 8:30 p.m., Starring: Daoud Jalajel, Haitaa Al Agha, Nariman Al Faqih & Abdul Kamel Khalaileh	Presents Abu Awwad In the social comedy Punctured Bag The theatre is closed on Mondays Tickets are available all day	Presents: The political satire: AL SALAM YA SALAM at 8:30 p.m. For reservation, please cal 625155 The theatre is closed of Saturdays & Sundays	



MOZDOK, Russia (Agencies) — Russia's military commander in Chechenya on Sunday effectively dealt a death blow to talks with secessionist rebels, saying he would not extend a ceasefire which expired at 6 p.m. local time (1500 GMT).

General Anatoly Kulikov released a statement at military headquarters in the town of Mozdok saying it was pointless holding further had attacked Russian troops on Saturday.

"The united military command bas exhausted all the chances it had to stop the fighting and is now obliged to take adequate measures, said the statement. Russian and Chechen

military officials on Wednesday agreed on a ceasefire, later extended to Sunday. The two sides accused each other of violating the truce but nevertheless had been expected to meet on Sunday to discuss extending the deal.

"For a week we stood on the thresbold of peace, sincerely believed in this chance and did all we could to achieve it," said Mr. Kuli-

Russia drove rebel forces out of Grozny in early February after more than two months of beavy fighting that destroyed the city and now would seem to have little choice but to pusb for the complete capitulation of their

opponents.
Gen. Kulikov blamed a small circle around rebel

Egypt to inspect a nuclear

leader Dzbokhar Dudayev ready to destroy thousands of people and buildings to further their political ambitions" for trying to break into Grozny on Saturday night.

The Russian government press service said 80 rebels were killed when a group of fighters used mortars, gre-nade launchers and small arms when they tried to move into the city from the west,

near a big oil refinery.
"The fighting lasted from 1530 (1230 GMT) to 2100 (I800 GMT). Dudáyev's unit was blockaded and destroyed," the press service said in a statement.

It said Russian positions near the village of Chechenaul, near the southern suburbs of Grozny, had also been shelled.

The headquarters of the Chechen insurgents, according to Interfax news agency, admitted the attack but said only two men had been wounded. The Chechen assault started at least 10 fires at the refinery.

In Washington, administration officials said Saturday it was unlikely President Bill Clinton would agree to a May summit in Moscow in light of the bloody Russian campaign against Chechenya's self-

declared independence. President Boris Yeltsin wanted Mr. Clinton to attend a 50th anniversary celebration May 8 of the Allies' victory over Germany in World War II.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher said earlier it was unlikely Mr. Clinton would attend, adding that "clearly, Checbenya was a factor" in the deliberation.

A busload of Chechen prisoners of war headed for Grozny Saturday for a prisoner exchange with the Russians, but ITAR-TASS said Sunday the exchange did not take place. The bus had not yet returned to Nazran, the agency said. However, the two sides did

exchange the bodies of war dead, Moscow's NTV news said, without giving any details. The prisoner and corpse exchanges were part of the ceasefire agreement.

Although tenuous, the brief truce allowed the Red Cross on Saturday to get its first convoy of aid to Grozny, a wasteland of rubble without beat, electricity, clean water.

Many of the city's 400,000 residents have fled since the Russians first tried to storm the city on Dec. 31. After the failed ground assault, the Rusians changed tactics, attacking from a distance with heavy artillery, warplanes and missiles.

Thousands of civilians are believed to have died in the merciless pounding, as well as in Russian attacks elsewhere in Chechenya.

Russia's human rights commissioner told Interfax that he believes 25,000 Chechen civilians may have been killed since the war began on Dec. II. Sergei Kovalyov spoke with Interfax on arrival from a meeting in Geneva with U.N. human rights officials.

trol over a nuclear arsenal

whose existence it refuses to

Bassiuny has left Tel Aviv

and returned to Cairo for

consultations, but the Egyp

tian authorities kept the deci-

sion quiet, a senior foreign-

bigger clash because the

Egyptians will raise the

stakes and we will continue to

series of gestures to bring relations with Egypt back to a normal level," he said.

anonymity said Egyptian di-

plomats had in recent months

been moving to halt the pro-

cess of normalisation be-

tween Israel and other coun-

tries, especially those with

large Islamic populations.

Egypt recently made pleas

against upgrading relations to

Tanzania, Djibouti and the

Comoro Islands, the official

"But we are studying a

An official who demanded

refuse to sign the treaty."

"We may be heading for a

ministry official told AFP.

Hashem Al Qaisi, the PSD's inspector general. PSD Director General Israel considering gesture Lientenant General Abdul Rahman Ai Adwan Sunday decided to make the followto Egypt on nuclear issue ing appointments and trans-

fers:
Maj.-Gen. Mohammao
office as Tarazi will assume office as PSD inspector general, succeeding Maj.-Gen. Qaisi; Mahmoud Hadid will become acting director of the PSD's Preventive Security Office, Colonel Adnan Al Abdallat will become bead of the Zarqa police department, and Col. Ahmad Al Ghamarat will become director of the Royal Police Academy. Brigadier Abdullab

AMMAN (Petra) - The

government on Sunday

reshuffled senior positions at

the Public Security Depart-

ment (PSD), retiring three senior officers as of March 1,

A statement issued Sunday

said a Cabinet meeting on

Saturday decided to retire

Major General Muayyad

Mubaslat, (PSD) assistant

director for traffic affairs,

Maj.-Gen. Mahmoud Abu

Hammour, assistant for man-

power affairs, and Maj.-Gen.

ment to become head of the PSD department responsible for officers affairs. Brig. Adel Armouti will be

CROSSING: An Israeli soldier checks the permits of the

Palestinian workers at Erez crossing on the border with the

Gaza Strip on Sunday. A Palestinian teenager was shot dead by an Israeli soldier Sunday morning when he allegedly

tried to cross the border without a permit. Nearly 900

3 PSD officers retired;

transferred from the Preven-tive Security Office to head the Amman police depart-Brig. Abdul Qader Al

Ouran will be transferred from the Zarga police department to become head of the Balqa police deprtment, and Abdul Razzaq Al Rakkad will be transferred from the Amman department to become deputy director of the Zarqa department.

Habahbeb will be transferred

from the Amman police de-

partment to the PSD direc-

tor's office to serve as assis-

Brig. Ibrahim Saraireh will

be transferred from the

Royal Police Academy to be-

come assistant PSD director

for traffic affairs, succeeding

Brig. Ghaleb Zoubi will be transferred from the PSD's

personnel affairs department to become assistnt PSD direc-

Brig. Abdul Karim Al

Tarawneh will be transferred

from the Balqa police depart-

tant for judicial affairs.

Maj.-Gen. Mubaslat.

tor for manpower.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Go back to Tunis, envoy tells Arafat

CAIRO (AFP) - Yasser Arafat should leave the Gaza Strip and go back to his former Tunis headquarters to out pressure on Israel to implement autonomy agreements, a Palestinian envoy here said Sunday. Mohammad Sobeih, Palestinian delegate to the Arab League, said: "Arafat must consider going back to Tunis following Israel's refusal to implement the accord it signed on autonomy. He can't continue to stay in Gaza in this situation where nothing is clear in Israel's position. What is he doing there? By leaving he will put pressure on Israel." Mr. Sobeih added: This decision can't be a personal one and must be taken by PLO authorities."

Israel to hold naval exercise with Arabs

TEL AVIV (AFP) - The Israeli navy will for the first time stage manoeuvres with several Arab fleets off Tunisia in March, the defence ministry said Sunday. Ships from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia. Morocco and Tunisia will take part with Israeli vessels, spokesman Oded Ben Ami said. The exercise was agreed at multilateral talks on arms control and regional security, part of the Middle East peace

Iran holds mass funeral for 3,000 soldiers

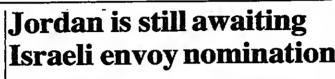
TEHRAN (AFP) — A mass funeral was held Sunday for 3,000 Iranian soldiers and milinamen killed in the 1980-1988 war with Iraq whose remains have only recently been found. All the country's 10p leaders as well as military officials took part in the ceremony held in front of the parliament building in central Tehran and attended by thousands of people.

Court acquits Kuwaiti lawmaker of fornication

KUWAIT (AP) - The criminal court has acquitted a parliament member of "committing a scandalous act" with a woman in a parked car and assaulting a policeman, his attorney disclosed Sunday. At the request of the defendant, Ahmad Nassar Al Shrajaan, lawmakers voted last year to lift his immunity for a trial, the first of its kind since parliament was established in 1963. Parliament members have accused the government of fabricating the incident to discredit the house. "The court was not convinced of the policeman's story and found it contradictory," said defence lawyer Imad Al Seif. The ruling was announced Saturday.

Wife-beating threatens Israeli envoy's post

TEL AVIV (AFP) - The appointment of an Arab-Israeli mayor as ambassador to Finland was called into question Sunday after he admitted hitting his wife. "I slap my wife from time to time. So what," Rafik Haji Yihiye told the Haaretz newspaper. The Labour Party stalwart and mayor of the Arab-Israeli town of Taibe has been pre-selected for Helsinki by a foreign ministry committee. He would become the first Arab with Israeli citizenship appointed as an Israeli ambassador. Labour Minister Ora Namir called Sanday for him to be barred. "A man who beats his wife cannot claim to represent the state of Israel in Helsinki or elsewhere." she told the army radio station. Ms. Namir appealed to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to find another candidate from the Arab-Israeli community "whose behaviour is more in line with our morals." Mr. Yihiye also told the daily on Friday that he opposed the opening of a shelter for battered wives in his town. "A shelter would expose women to harmful influences," he said.



Gazans returned to work in Israel Sunday after being

individually checked for explosives as the army eased a

month-long closure of the territories following a suicide

bombing in Beit Lid Jan. 22 (AFP photo)

Staff Reporter

senior official said Sunday.

Commenting on reports that the Israeli government had decided upon nominating Shimon Shamir as the Jewish state's first ambassador to

in the media that Israel is nominating Mr. Shamir as ambassador to Jordan, but we have not received any

matter and do the needful as and when we are officially notified of the nomination,

Mr. Sbamir, an academician and Middle East expert who served as Israel's ambassador to Egypt, was a com-promise candidate agreed upon by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Fore-

The compromise was reached last week, and the Shamir nomination was formalised Thursday, the re-

The Jerusalem Post reported last week that the tussle over an ambassador to Jordan was holding up the eight nominations. we know who will be ambassador to Jordan, we cannot decide on other appointdan, he would automatically be eligible for another ambassadorial slot," the Post quoted a foreign ministry source as saying. The vacancies that remained in limbo pending the

decision on Jordan covered Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Denmark, Finland, India, Ethiopia and Mexico, according to the Post. In the meantime, Marwan Muasher, who is expected to take office as Jordan's first

ambassador to Israel, is expected to head for Tel Aviv next month after some "technical and procedural issues" are settled, officials said. They noted that Dr. Muasher, who served as head of the Jordan Information Bureau in Washington, D.C.,

and later as spokesman for

the Kingdom's peace nego-tiating team, had to be sworn

in as ambassador in the pre-

sence of His Majesty King Hussein. A Royal Decree has aiready been issued approv-ing Dr. Muasher's appoint-ment as ambassador.

Officials said meanwhile that the foreign ministry bad not received any official information from the government of Sandi Arabia naming an ambassador to Amman and filling the four-year-old vacant post at the Saudi embassy in Amman. A local report said last

week that the Riyadh government had decided to nominate Abdullah Sudeiri, a relative of King Fahd, as its ambassador to Jordan. The report came after Hani Khalifeh took up office in Riyadh as Jordan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia last month.

since then, and the Saudi acceptance of Mr. Khalifeh as Jordan's ambassador to Rivadh to replace Nasser Batavneh after more than three years was seen as a positive signal to the im-

added the official, who de-

and foreign ministry official Yossi Gal to assume the post.

ports said.

ments. If a person does not

'magic' fraud DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) — A United Arab Emirates (UAE) trader

UAE trader

loses \$55,000 in

lost nearly 200,000 dirhams (\$55,000) after he was conned by three Africans posing as magicians who could make his money grow. Al-Khaleej newspaper reported Saturday that the Africans persuaded the trader they could increase his money by mixing it with asmall amount of "magic" money and asked him to band them 800,000 dirhams (\$220,000). But he invested only 200,000 dirhams. "They placed the money in a bag and one of them asked the trader to get him a drink. When he came back, the bag was wrapped in a piece of cloth," it said. "They then told him be had to wait a few days before opening the bag-A few days passed and the Africans had not turned up yet. He became suspicious and opened the bag to find it empty." Al-Khaleej, which did not identify the African or their victim, said it was the latest in a series of swindles in the emirate.

Policeman denles he is suing

queen over fall

LONDON (R) — A police man who fell while on guard duty at Queen Elizabeth Windsor Castle denied newspaper report which said he was suing the British monarch for £250,000 (\$394,600) compensation Roger Mathastein, 45 agreed he was injured affect falling into a bole left by workmen while patrolling the castle at night. But he de scribed the rest of the report in the Sun newspaper as figment of the imagination."
"Don't you think that if I was in the process of spring the queen my solicitors would have told me?" Mr. Mathas tein told Britain's Press Asso

ciation news agency. "I am not aware of any high count writ being issued."

Mathastein, who left his post-last year, said he was seeking

last year, said he was seeking some form of redress for his injuries but added incre

no way we are even close to

suing the queen."

MANAMA (R) - A U.S.

Sunday and one person is still On Monday. The Gulf-based U.S. Naval Forces Central Command said in a statement

COLUMN

Malor family

Prime Minister John Major's

caught in new love scandal Volume 19 Number 5850 LONDON (R) — British

Egyptian police foil CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian professional

CAIRO (AP) Egyptian professional Monday to protest government interfet rounded their headquarters, hear four arrested another. The professionals are presented government oversight of union to give the government oversight of union the 22 independent unions are controlled to the 22 inde

the ZI independent and one controlled the bood. Egypt's largest fundamentalist organical bood. Egypt's largest rundamentalist org. engineers, lawyers and others planned to engineers, lawyers and others planned to engineers, lawyers and other mar syndicate in downtown Cairo and then mar syndicate in downtown Cairo and then mar syndicated the professionals from one and the professionals from the professional f

presidential office. They expected 5,000 to blocked the professionals from entering the blocked the professionals from entering the union members were beaten, including to one was knocked unconscious. "About five

one was kindled to the back of my head with me and the ground unconscious." said Abdu fell to the ground discourse, said Acets of the doctors. One person was arrested, reasurer of the doctors' syndicate

public image as the "grey" man" was splashed with a touch of colour Sunday with Media team heads for Bahrain news his teenage son had been named as a third party. AMMAN (Petra) - A de-AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Jordanian official mass media Monday left Amman for Bahrain in response to an invitation by Bahraini Information Minister Tareq Al Musayad. The delegation is headed by Information in a couple's divorce. James Major, 19, denied claims in Sunday newspapers that he had followed in his father's footsteps by having a youthful fling with an older woman, his colleague at a headed by Information Ministry Secretary General Nayef Maula and includes as department store. The revelation earlier this month that John Major bad himself members Radio Jordan Director Hashem Khreisat dated older woman Jean Kierans, before be met his and the Jordan News agency. wife Norma, left some media Petra, director general, Abdullah Utoum. The de-legation will meet during its commentators wondering if they had done him an injustice by branding him a dull several-day visit with Bahraini officials for talks on and colourless man. But his son's involvement in divorce means of boosting and bolproceedings, plastered over-the front of nearly all Sunstering bilateral cooperation in media-related fields. day's tabloid newspapers, may prove an embarrassment Top French for the unpopular prime; minister. He quietly dropped cop resigns his "back to basics" moralcrusade last year after scandals involving government ministers' own sex lives and

PARIS (AFP) — A top French police official, Jacmes Franquet, resigned on Monday after an aide to Prime Minister and presiden-ial candidate Edouard Ballaour accused police of lying in order to gain permission to carry out a controversial wire-tap. Mr. Franquet. director of criminal investigations, offered his resignation to Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, the interior ministry said in a communique. Mr. Pasqua cut short a presidential campaign meeting in Marseille, southern France, to return to Paris for a meeting with Mr. Franquet. Sudan to hold

elections in Halaib

KHARTOUM (AP) -Sudan will bold elections in a disputed border area in a move likely to inflame ten-sions with Egypt. The region, known as Halaib, is a trianguar patch of desert bordering the Red Sea. Under an 1899 treaty, the land was incorpomed into Egypt. But three ears later, Egypt gave Sudan administrative powers, and both now claim it. The area is largely populated by Sudanese nomads. Sudan has registered voters in Halaib in preparation for the elections, which are to take place over several months, said Abdul Moneim Al Zain, president

GIA claims it killed intellectuals

ALGIERS (AFP) — Algeria's radical Islamic Armed Group claims in its latest weekly news bulletin that it is responsible for the killing of several Algerian cultural figures and six Tunisian police officers, the daily Tribune reported bere Monday. The paper said that in the bulletin called Al Ansar and published Friday, the GIA claims responsibility for last week's slaying of Azeddine Med-jouble, the director of the Algerian National Theatre, of Abdul Hafid Said, a student leader, and of Nabila Djahnine, the head of a feminist organisation.

case approved

CAIRO (AP) — President two extremists convicted of attempting to assassinate the two men were guilty of carrying out a stabbing attack on Mr. Mahfouz and sentenced them to death. In extremist cases, there is no appeal to a higher court. Now that Mr. Mubarak has defendants have 15 days to seek clemency from bim. Mr. Mubarak bas so far rejected

U.S. helicopter

marine helicopter crashed While on a training mission that four people were rescued when the single-engined UH-Dean in the Indian

research facility and is con-Washington even dispatchsidering a further gesture to to defuse growing tension with Egypt over the issue. ed a representative to Israel assuage Egyptian concerns to persuade the government to cool the clash before the The treaty is scheduled to be on the nuclear issue, Israeli officials said Sunday. The officials said the nareviewed at a conference treaty comes up for renewal starting in April. Mr. Peres indicated after in mid-April, foreign ministry ture of the Israeli gesture bad not been decided but that it officials said. Ambassador Mohammad

might include a proposal to hold a dialogue between but did not give details. Egyptian and Israeli nuclear

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Shimon Israel has offered to allow Peres met Friday in Paris

day that Israel was considering bosting Egyptian nuclear experts, exchanging scientists or making a declaration that

between us and the Egyptians on a possible compromise, said Yigal Palmor, a foreign ministry spokesman. "There is an intention to calm the tensions and the unnecessary

has rallied Arab countries to his warning that Egypt will refuse to sign the NPT unless Israel joins.

opposes international con-

France and Egypt in an effort

the meeting that a crisis had

acknowledge, hiding behind with the foreign ministers of what it calls a "strategic fog."

The foreign ministry de-

"There are talks going on

hate that is between us."

The newspaper said Sun-

would calm Egypt's concerns.

President Hosni Mubarak

But Israel steadfastly

been averted over the issue clined comment on the report The suggestion came on about Israel considering a top of an offer earlier this gesture to Egypt, which first surfaced in the daily Maariy newspaper.

month in which Israel proposed that Egyptian experts be allowed to inspect the Nahal Sorek nuclear facility south of Tel Aviv. "It is a serious offer, one that is a departure from Israeli policy," an offi-

cial told the Associated Press on condition of anonymity. However, the site has been previously inspected by international experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the

sign of softening by Egypt. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa has warned that Egypt may refuse to renew its signature on the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) if Israel refuses to join it as

offer did not produce any

Rival demands threaten U.N. plan amid new clashes in Kabul

KABUL (Agencies) - The United Nations peace plan for Afghanistan was plunged into uncertainty Sunday after Taliban militants, who captured another province, were reported to have set stiff conditions for a transfer of pow-

Clasbes were also reported overnight in Kabul between forces of President Burhanuddin Rabbani and challen-A U.N. official confirmed

with the Talibans and President Rabbani. "They are all making conflicting demands," said the U.N. official, who requested anonymity. He said that a majority of the people included on a U.N. list for a

negotiations were continuing

new governing council in Kabul were headed for the Afghan capital. The Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) reported that Taliban troops drove into Paktika. southeast of Kabul, at dawn Sunday to a rousing welcome

by residents. 'There was no resistance," AIP said. The area boused no major military installations, but the capture is of political significance since its chief commander was Arsala Rahmani, once deputy prime minister in Mr. Rabbani's

cabinet. The Talibans, who have Afgban politics following their dramatic military victories over the last six months. now control a third of Afgha-

Meanwhile, light arms fire and rocket propelled grenades were traded in west Kabul between the Shiite Hezb-e-Wahadat faction and Mr. Rabbani's forces overnight, military sources said

In intermittent fighting throughout the night, pro-Rabbani artillery shelled the Wahadat positions from a bill where the television tower is

U.N. mediator Mabmoud Mestiri, who returned to Kabul from talks with the Taliban leaders Saturday, said the militants wanted a neutral security force in Kabul before the transfer of power, initially planned to

take place by Monday. The Talibans, which want to disarm the country and establish strict Islamic law. have demanded that only "good Muslims" be allowed on a proposed council set to

take over from Mr. Rabbani. "They say the transfer of power will not have meaning if it is not supported by a nentral security force in Kabul at least," Mr. Mestiri said Saturday.

"I think it is a reasonable

condition and we bave put it to Rabbani to think about it. But I don't think it will be-

come a major stumbling Mr. Mestiri wants warring Afghan factions, whose balance of power is under threat from the Talibans poised outside Kabul, to join a representative council to take over

from Mr. Rabbani. The Talibans consider the mujahedeen, who drove former Soviet troops out of Afghanistan in 1989, to be "criminals" responsible for nearly three years of bloodshed that has left more than 20,000 dead.

from Islamabad Friday with a list of individuals drawn up by him after consulting Afghan mujahedeen factions and other groups, Reports suggest that people close to former King Zah-

Mr. Mestiri came to Kabul

er Shah, who has been living in exile in Rome since 1976. dominate the list. Mr. Mestiri has been joined by a representative of the 51-nation Jeddah-based Organisation of the Islamic

Mr. Mestiri met former Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud, a strongman in the presidential camp, Saturday and discussed the Talisources said.

Conference (OIC) to assist

top positions reshuffled Israeli envoy nomination become ambassador to Jor-

By a Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordanian government has not received any official Israeli nomination of an ambassador to the Kingdom and will act upon the issue as and when Israel formally sends a notification to the Foreign Ministry, a

Jordan, the official said; "We have beard and read

official nomination yet."
"We will follow up on the

clined to be identified.

ign Minister Shimon Peres, Israeli reports said. Mr. Rabin bad wanted to nominate Ephraim Halevy, deputy head of the Mossad secret service, while Mr. Peres wanted career diplomat

according to the reports.

The Rabin-Peres agreement on the nomination also cleared the way for the Israeii foreign ministry to nominate eight other ambassadors to

fill vacant posts.

Rivadh called its ambassador from Jordan and reduced the Jordanian diplomatic presence in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf crisis. Relations have improved

provement of ties. Palestinian petition urges PNA to free detainees

AMMAN (Agencies) — Palestinian activists and dozens of members of the Palestinian parliament-inexile called on Sunday for the release of Palestinian prisoners held in self-rule jails for opposing peace with Israel.

A statement signed by 179 Palestinians, including 60 members of the Palestinian National Council, said the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) running the Gaza Strip and the West Bank enclave of Jericho since May, was to be blamed for the crackdown and for curtailing public freedoms and demo-

"We bold Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's authority responsible for issuing orders to arrest these freedom fighters for opposing the occupation," the statement said.

Most of the signatories are

known leftists and independents who have vowed to sabotage the PLO's self-rule deal with Israel. They included George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Nayef Hawatmeh,

leader of the Democranc

Front for the Liberation of

Palestine, and three PLO Ex-

ecutive Committee members

who have suspended their

membership to protest

pressure from Israel to crack down on militants behind a wave of bloody suicide bombings, have arrested stores of activists in Gaza in the past The statement also conde-

mned the PNA for setting np military courts to try activists, saying they were illegal. "We arge everyone to oppose the decision to set up these so-called state security courts which have no function but to strangle general

political freedoms and demo-

The statement accused Mr.

Arafat of using police repres-

cracy," it said.

sion in the self-rule areas similar to that carried out by Israel. It compared the "methods of the Palestinian police which act with brutality under cover of darkness and without legal or moral restric-

nions to those of the Israeli occupation forces. It called for an "international solidatity campaign' with those arrested by the Palestinian police urging Arab and international groups to seek the "release of these prisoners and those de-

tained in Israel." Those arrested included members of the DFLP, Islamic Jihad, and Islamic Resistfamily friend of the Majors as saying: "James played no part in the couple's split up. 'He met her at Marks & Spencer... they had a brief relationship. "There is no relationship. "There is no question of him being a marriage breaker."

financial affairs led to accusa-

tions of hypocrisy. The pap-

ers said gift shop owner Michael Jordache, 41, has

named Mr. Major's son in,

divorce papers against his wife Elaine, 32. She was de-

puty manager at a Marks and

Spencer department store

where James was a trainee.

They no longer work

together. Her husband claims

James became besotted with

his wife. He had seen the

couple cuddling at a pyjama party at their home, found

them alone together in a pub and discovered his wife had

been calling James regularly

on her mobile phone. The

Mail On Sunday quoted a

of the general elections

Verdicts in Mahfouz

Hosni Mubarak bas approved the death sentences against Nobel prize-winning author Naguih Mahfouz. A military court ruled last month that all such appeals.

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